



CONSTITUTION

Constitution as amended and approved by Congress
on 12 September 2025, effective 03 November 2025

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PART I – COMMENCEMENT, STATUS, PURPOSES AND POWERS

1. Name

- 1.1 World Athletics (formerly known as the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF)) is an association of the Member Federations.
- 1.2 The IAAF was formed in 1912 and was registered as an association in the Principality of Monaco on 28 October 1993. The IAAF is established for an indefinite period under the laws of Monaco (Loi n°1.355 of 23 December 2008). As of 2019, the IAAF changed its name to "World Athletics".
- 1.3 World Athletics is the sole competent international authority for the sport of Athletics worldwide and is recognised as such by the IOC.

2. Commencement

- 2.1 This version of the Constitution shall come into force on 03 November 2025.

3. Headquarters, Offices and Applicable Law

- 3.1 The headquarters and registered office of World Athletics shall be situated in Monaco. World Athletics' headquarters may not be transferred outside the Principality of Monaco.
- 3.2 World Athletics may have additional offices outside of Monaco, as decided by the Executive Board.
- 3.3 The governing law of World Athletics is the law of Monaco.

4. Purposes

- 4.1 The purposes of World Athletics are to:
 - a. promote, develop, and be the governing body for the sport of Athletics worldwide;
 - b. encourage participation in Athletics at all levels throughout the world through competitions, events, programmes and activities;
 - c. establish, manage, control and supervise International Competitions and recognise records in Athletics from International Competitions;
 - d. regulate the sport of Athletics through the development of rules and regulations and a judicial system by which they are enforced;
 - e. protect the integrity of Athletics and World Athletics by developing and enforcing standards of conduct and ethical behaviour and implementing good governance;
 - f. protect clean athletes in Athletics by applying and enforcing the World Anti-Doping Code including implementing rules, programmes, systems and disciplinary measures;
 - g. encourage and support the development, organisation and delivery of Athletics worldwide through its Areas and Member Federations;

- h. support and assist Area Associations and Member Federations to promote and develop Athletics in accordance with the Purposes of World Athletics;
- i. advance the sport of Athletics through ongoing research and development including the dissemination of technical, medical, logistical and other information about Athletics;
- j. protect the right of every individual to participate in Athletics as a sport, without unlawful discrimination of any kind, in the spirit of friendship, solidarity and fair play, and in doing so, respect all internationally recognised human rights;
- k. be recognised by the IOC and play a leading role in the Olympic Movement. In particular to undertake its responsibilities to organise, supervise and officiate the Athletics programme at the Olympic Games;
- l. cooperate with other sports organisations, public and private organisations and authorities to promote the interests of sport generally, and Athletics in particular, throughout the world;
- m. preserve and promote the best of the history of the sport of Athletics and in particular, to maintain a heritage collection of notable historical artefacts, documents, photographs and memorabilia;
- n. partner with corporate and other entities to protect and enhance World Athletics' Intellectual Property including entering into the commercial, marketing and sponsorship arrangements for the sport of Athletics and World Athletics; and,
- o. promote and implement programmes and practices to ensure the sustainability of Athletics including the environment in which Athletics is undertaken.

5. Powers

- 5.1 Subject to this Constitution and the law of Monaco, World Athletics has all the powers of a legal person and may do all such acts or things which are necessary, desirable, incidental or conducive to advancing the Purposes of World Athletics.

PART II – MEMBERSHIP

6. Members

6.1 The Members of World Athletics are the Member Federations.

6.2 The Member Federations listed in the Appendix to this Constitution are the Members of World Athletics as at the date this Constitution is effective, subject to Articles 13 (Suspension of Membership and Other Sanctions) and 14 (Expulsion from Membership).

7. Admission as a Member

7.1 A national governing body for the sport of Athletics in any Country may apply for admission as a Member of World Athletics.

7.2 A national governing body in a Territory is not eligible to be a Member Federation. This Article shall not affect the status of existing Member Federations of Territories who were admitted to Membership of World Athletics (formerly the IAAF) prior to 31 December 2005. Every reference to a Country in this Constitution shall be deemed to mean a Territory which has been admitted as a Member Federation under this Article, unless specified otherwise.

7.3 There shall only be one Member Federation from any one Country or Territory.

7.4 An application by a national governing body seeking Membership shall be made in accordance with the admission procedures set out in the Rules and Regulations.

7.5 To be considered for Membership, an applicant seeking admission as a Member shall demonstrate to the Council's satisfaction that:

- it is recognised as the national governing body for the sport of Athletics in its Country;
- it is a separate legal entity properly constituted in accordance with the law applicable to its Country;
- it is Financially Solvent;
- its application for Membership is supported by the Area Association of the Area in which the applicant is situated; and,
- such other requirements as set out in the Rules and Regulations.

7.6 The Council has the power to decide, in its discretion, by Special Majority, whether to admit a national governing body to be a Member of World Athletics on a provisional basis, including deciding the Area in which it is designated.

7.7 Provisional membership of any Member Federation granted by the Council by Special Majority shall be put to the next Ordinary Congress meeting or a Special Congress meeting for approval of permanent Membership or otherwise. The rights and obligations of Member Federations as set out in this Constitution shall not apply until such time as permanent Membership is granted.

7.8 The admission or otherwise to Membership is at the sole discretion of Congress.

7.9 Once admitted, a Member Federation is a Member for indefinite duration, unless it withdraws its Membership or is suspended or expelled from Membership in

accordance with this Constitution.

8. Rights of Members

8.1 Subject to this Constitution, the Rules and Regulations, each Member Federation has the right to:

- a. appoint Delegates to attend, speak and vote at meetings of Congress, in accordance with this Constitution;
- b. appoint representatives to attend and speak at the Convention and other forums held by World Athletics;
- c. submit nominations for the election of President, Vice-Presidents and Individual Council Members;
- d. submit nominations for members of Commissions;
- e. receive the Annual Council Report together with such other reports that are required to be made to Congress as specified in this Constitution;
- f. receive circulars and other official information as specified in the Rules and Regulations;
- g. enter athletes in International Competitions in accordance with the Rules and Regulations;
- h. be a member of an Area Association in accordance with the constitution and rules of the Area Association;
- i. such other rights and privileges as set out in this Constitution, the Rules and Regulations.

9. Obligations of Members

9.1 In accordance with this Constitution, the Rules and Regulations, each Member Federation shall:

- a. administer, promote and develop Athletics in the Member Federation Country in accordance with the Purposes of World Athletics;
- b. comply with this Constitution and all Rules and Regulations;
- c. democratically elect or appoint its officers and executive body in accordance with the Rules and Regulations;
- d. supply information to World Athletics as specified in the Rules and Regulations or as otherwise requested in writing;
- e. continue to meet all the requirements for admission to Membership set out in Article 7.5;
- f. adopt a constitution, rules and regulations which comply with, and are not inconsistent with, this Constitution, the Rules and the Regulations;
- g. submit a report annually to World Athletics and its Area Association in accordance with the Rules and Regulations;

- h. compete in at least one International Competition or one Area Championships in the period between meetings of Ordinary Congress;
- i. be a member of its Area Association and cooperate with it, in accordance with the Area Association's constitution and rules; and,
- j. pay any Membership Fee by the Due Date.

9.2 In the event of any inconsistency between the constitution, rules and regulations of a Member Federation and the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of World Athletics, then to the extent of that inconsistency, the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of World Athletics will prevail.

10. Membership Fee

- 10.1 Members shall pay any Membership Fee(s) set by Congress on the recommendation of Council by the Due Date.
- 10.2 A Member may be suspended or expelled from Membership in accordance with this Constitution if any Membership Fees or other fees or payments to World Athletics are due and outstanding for more than thirty (30) days after the Due Date, or any later date, approved by Council upon application by the Member Federation.

11. Withdrawal of Membership

- 11.1 A Member Federation that is not in default of any payments as specified in Article 10.2 may withdraw its Membership of World Athletics by giving not less than six (6) months written notice to World Athletics in accordance with the procedure set out in the Rules and Regulations.

12. Intervention in a Member Federation

- 12.1 World Athletics may intervene in the governance or management of a Member Federation in whatever manner Council considers appropriate if, in Council's opinion, after enquiry and having provided a reasonable opportunity for the Member Federation to be heard, and if approved by Special Majority of Council, the Member Federation:
 - a. is having significant governance, administration, operational or financial difficulties;
 - b. ceases to meet one or more of the admission requirements specified in Article 7.5;
 - c. takes or has taken against it any action or proceedings to dissolve it;
 - d. is involved in any conflict which prevents it from operating effectively; or,
 - e. is otherwise unable to fulfil its purposes.
- 12.2 If World Athletics decides to intervene under Article 12.1, Council shall:
 - a. notify the Member Federation of the decision to intervene, the proposed period of intervention and the terms of the intervention;
 - b. take such steps as are reasonable and practicable to resolve the issues affecting the Member Federation, including but not limited to calling a general meeting of the members of the Member Federation, appointing a person or

persons to act in place of the executive body of the Member Federation or to assume temporary management of the operations of the Member Federation, or request the assistance of the relevant Area Association to address and resolve the issues; and,

- c. act in accordance with the constitution of the Member Federation, unless it is inconsistent with this Constitution, the Rules or the Regulations, in which case this Constitution or the Rules and Regulations, as applicable, shall apply.

13. Suspension of Membership and Other Sanctions

13.1 **Provisional Suspension by Council:** Council may provisionally suspend a Member Federation's Membership for a period specified in Article 13.2 if, in the opinion of Council, the Member Federation:

- a. is in breach of any one or more of its obligations under Article 9 (Obligations of Members) including its failure to pay the Membership Fee or any other fees or payments due and owed by the date specified in Article 10.2;
- b. is otherwise in breach of any other Article in this Constitution or the Rules and Regulations or a decision of Congress or Council;
- c. acts in a manner which is contrary to any of the Purposes of World Athletics, or the government of the Country or Territory that the Member represents, acts in a manner contrary to any of the Purposes;
- d. ceases to meet one or more of the admission requirements set out in Article 7.5;
- e. has any one or more of the circumstances in Article 12.1 apply to it.

13.2 The period of a provisional suspension imposed by Council under Article 13.1 shall be:

- a. a fixed period decided by Council, provided that the period is no longer than the period to the next Ordinary Congress meeting; or
- b. an indefinite period dependent on the satisfaction of terms and conditions imposed by Council, provided that the period is no longer than the period to the next Ordinary Congress meeting.

13.3 Before provisionally suspending a Member Federation under Article 13.1, Council shall:

- a. notify the Member Federation in writing of its proposal to provisionally suspend it from Membership including the proposed period of provisional suspension and the reasons for such proposal; and,
- b. give the Member Federation at least twenty-one (21) days to respond to the proposal to provisionally suspend its Membership, unless Council considers there is urgency, in which case this period may be reduced to such lesser period as it sees fit in the circumstances.

13.4 Council may at any time during the period of any provisional suspension of a Member Federation:

- a. extend the period of provisional suspension from that imposed under Article 13.2, for a further period, provided that the further period is no longer than the

period to the next Ordinary Congress meeting; or,

- b. revoke the provisional suspension, either on application by the Member Federation or of its own volition, if it is satisfied that the grounds on which the provisional suspension was imposed no longer apply.

13.5 **Additional Sanctions by Council:** In place of, or in addition to, any provisional suspension imposed under Article 13.1, if any of the grounds set out in Article 13.1 apply or a Member Federation is in breach of Article 17, Council may impose any one or more of the following sanctions on a Member Federation:

- a. set specific terms or conditions to be met or steps to be undertaken to the satisfaction of Council;
- b. issue a caution or censure;
- c. impose a fine;
- d. withhold grants or subsidies;
- e. exclude a Member's athletes, athlete support personnel and/or Officials who are Citizens of the Member Federation Country, and Member Federation Officials, from any International Competitions or any World Athletics position or body;
- f. remove or deny accreditation of, or other benefits to, athletes, athlete support personnel and/or Officials who are Citizens of the Member Federation Country and Member Federation Officials, for any International Competitions and other World Athletics events and activities;
- g. suspend rights to attend, speak and/or vote at meetings of Congress; or
- h. impose any other sanctions it considers appropriate.

13.6 Before imposing any sanction under Article 13.5, Council shall:

- a. notify the Member Federation in writing of its proposal to impose a sanction including the nature of the proposed sanction and the reasons for such proposal; and,
- b. give the Member Federation at least twenty-one (21) days to respond to the proposal unless Council considers there is urgency, in which case this period may be reduced to such lesser period as it sees fit in the circumstances.

13.7 **Suspension by Congress:** Congress may suspend a Member Federation's Membership for a period specified in Article 13.8 if:

- a. Council recommends such suspension following the provisional suspension by Council under Article 13.1;
- b. Congress considers, of its own volition, that any one or more of the grounds set out in Article 13.1 apply;
- c. any terms or conditions imposed by Council under Article 13.2(b) or under Article 13.5 are not met to the satisfaction of Congress; or
- d. any sanctions imposed under Article 13.5 are not fulfilled by the Member Federation, to the satisfaction of Congress.

13.8 The period of suspension imposed by Congress may be a fixed period, or an indefinite period subject to the satisfaction of any terms and conditions imposed by Congress.

13.9 Before Congress suspends a Member Federation from Membership under Article 13.7, Council (if it is recommending such suspension) or Congress (in other circumstances) shall:

- notify the Member Federation in writing of its proposal to suspend it from Membership including the reasons for such proposal;
- give the Member Federation at least thirty (30) days to respond to the proposal to suspend the Member at a meeting of Congress; and,
- give the Member Federation the right to be heard at Congress.

13.10 At any Congress meeting held any time during the period of any suspension of a Member Federation, Congress may:

- extend the period of suspension from that imposed under Article 13.8 for a further period; or,
- revoke the suspension, either on application by the Member Federation or of its own volition, if it is satisfied that the grounds on which the suspension was imposed no longer apply or any terms and conditions imposed with the suspension have been satisfied.

13.11 The suspension (including provisional suspension) of, or any other sanctions against, any Member Federation imposed by Council or Congress, shall be promptly notified by the Chief Executive Officer to all Member Federations and Area Associations.

13.12 Nothing in this Article 13 limits or waives any other powers of Congress or Council under this Constitution nor any powers of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal to impose sanctions in accordance with this Constitution or the Rules and Regulations.

14. Expulsion from Membership

14.1 Congress may expel any Member Federation from Membership, if:

- the Member Federation has been suspended under Article 13.7, and the matters giving rise to the suspension have not been addressed to the satisfaction of Congress; or,
- the circumstances in Article 13.1 have seriously impacted or may seriously impact on the reputation of World Athletics or Athletics or have been carried out repeatedly or persistently by a Member Federation.

14.2 The process for Congress to expel a Member Federation from Membership shall be the same as that required for suspension as set out in Article 13.9.

14.3 The expulsion of any Member Federation from Membership shall be promptly notified by the Chief Executive Officer to all Member Federations and Area Associations.

15. Consequences of Withdrawal, Suspension or Expulsion of Membership

15.1 Where any Member Federation has withdrawn its Membership or had its Membership suspended (including provisionally suspended) or is expelled, the following consequences shall apply:

- a. the Member Federation concerned shall:
 - i. automatically and with immediate effect be suspended from the Area Association if it was suspended from World Athletics (including provisionally suspended), or cease to be a member of the Area Association if it withdrew, or was expelled from, Membership of World Athletics;
 - ii. not in any way hold itself out as a Member of World Athletics or the Area Association;
 - iii. forfeit all rights in and claims upon World Athletics and its property including its Intellectual Property,
 - iv. not use any World Athletics property, including its Intellectual Property, unless prior agreed; and,
 - v. not be entitled to any rights, entitlements, or privileges to which it would otherwise have been entitled including representation and/or participation in any competition, activity, event, function or meeting of World Athletics including a Congress meeting;
- b. no Official or Area Official who is a Citizen of the Member Federation Country, or holding any office in the Member Federation will:
 - i. be entitled to take up or continue to hold office in any position within World Athletics (including any Commission, board, panel, or tribunal constituted by World Athletics) or with any Area Association or other Member Federation; and,
 - ii. be entitled to any other rights, entitlements or privileges to which they would otherwise have been entitled including representation, entry, participation or involvement in any capacity in any competition, activity, event, function or meeting of World Athletics (including meetings of Congress, Council and the Executive Board) or any Area Association;
- c. no athlete, athlete support personnel or other person who is a member, or under the jurisdiction, of the Member Federation may represent, enter, compete, participate or otherwise be involved in any capacity on behalf of that Member Federation, in any competition, activity, event, function or meeting of World Athletics or any Area Association, unless specified otherwise in the Rules.

16. Reinstatement of Expelled Member

- 16.1 A Member Federation that has been expelled from Membership by Congress may be reinstated as a Member at the discretion of Congress if:
 - a. a proposal for reinstatement is made by the Member Federation to Council in writing at least six (6) months prior to an Ordinary Congress meeting or a Special Congress meeting called for that purpose in accordance with Article 32;
 - b. having considered the proposal, Council agrees, by Special Majority to recommend to Congress the reinstatement of the Member Federation to Membership; and,
 - c. Congress approves reinstatement of Membership at the Congress meeting, by Special Majority.

17. Compliance

- 17.1** Member Federations shall comply with all applicable Rules and Regulations and any applicable policies and procedures published by World Athletics and as are prescribed by World Athletics as applying to Member Federations.
- 17.2** Where a Member Federation is in breach of its obligations under this Constitution, any applicable Rule or Regulation or any applicable policy or procedure of World Athletics, it shall be no defence (or mitigating factor) that the breach has been caused by a government's or other public authority's interference in and/or failure to provide support to the Member Federation or other act or omission by the governmental or public authority.

PART III – AREAS

18. Areas

18.1 World Athletics is divided into the following six (6) geographical regions of the world called Areas:

- a. Africa;
- b. Asia;
- c. Europe;
- d. North America, Central America and the Caribbean;
- e. Oceania;
- f. South America.

18.2 The Areas are designated for the purposes of:

- a. promoting, developing and co-ordinating Athletics in each Area including organising Area Competitions;
- b. electing the Area Presidents who, subject to Articles 43 and 44, are ex officio Council Members;
- c. electing members of the Area Councils in accordance with the constitution of the Area Association.

19. Area Associations

19.1 Each Area shall have an Area Association which has delegated authority from World Athletics to make decisions in their Area in accordance with this Constitution, the Rules and the Regulations.

19.2 Each Area Association shall be a separate legal entity properly constituted in accordance with the law applicable to a Country in its Area.

19.3 Each Area Association shall have as its members, the Member Federations in the Area set out in the Appendix to this Constitution, as amended from time to time in accordance with this Constitution. An Area Association may also have Territories in its Area as members, and other categories of members of the Area Association, but without voting rights.

19.4 The President and Chief Executive Officer shall be notified of, and have the right to participate in, all meetings of each Area Council and Area Meeting.

19.5 An Area Association has no authority to act as an agent or representative of World Athletics, or to enter into any contract or commitment on behalf of World Athletics, except as expressly authorised in this Constitution, Rules and Regulations or otherwise in writing by Council or the Executive Board.

20. Role of Area Associations

20.1 The role of each Area Association is to:

- a. promote and develop the sport of Athletics in its Area;

- b. encourage participation in Athletics at all levels throughout the Area through competitions, events, programmes and activities;
- c. establish, manage and control Area Competitions and recognise records in Athletics from those competitions;
- d. cooperate with other sports organisations, public and private organisations and authorities to promote the interests of sport generally, and Athletics in particular, in the Area; and,
- e. carry out such other roles and responsibilities as set out in the Rules, Regulations or otherwise delegated to it in writing by the Council or Executive Board.

21. Rights of Area Associations

21.1 Subject to this Constitution, the Rules and Regulations, each Area Association has the right to:

- a. its Area President being an ex officio Council Member provided that its Area President is Eligible in accordance with Article 65;
- b. if requested by World Athletics, enter into agreements with World Athletics to deliver competitions, events, programmes and activities in the Area;
- c. appoint Observers to attend meetings of Congress, if invited to do so, in accordance with Article 29.4(c);
- d. appoint representatives to attend and speak at the Convention and other forums held by World Athletics;
- e. submit nominations for members of Commissions;
- f. receive the Annual Council Report together with such other reports that are required to be made to Congress in this Constitution;
- g. receive circulars and other official information as specified in the Rules; and,
- h. such other rights and privileges as set out in this Constitution, the Rules and Regulations.

22. Obligations of Area Associations

22.1 In accordance with this Constitution, the Rules and Regulations, each Area Association shall:

- a. administer, promote and develop the sport of Athletics in its Area in accordance with the Purposes of World Athletics;
- b. manage and organise Area Competitions;
- c. comply with this Constitution, all Rules and Regulations and any applicable policies and procedures published by World Athletics and as are prescribed by World Athletics as applying to Area Associations;
- d. have and maintain a central office in the Area to administer the affairs of the Area Association;

- e. have its Area President democratically elected, and the members of its Area Council and other officers democratically elected or appointed in accordance with the constitution of the Area Association and the Rules and Regulations;
- f. hold Area Meetings at least every two (2) Calendar Years at which representatives of the Member Federations and other members of the Area Association, in the Area, are entitled to attend, speak and vote;
- g. supply information to World Athletics as specified in the Rules and Regulations or as otherwise requested in writing;
- h. maintain its status as a separate legal entity properly constituted in accordance with the law applicable to a Country in its Area;
- i. adopt a constitution, rules and regulations which comply with and are consistent with this Constitution, the Rules and the Regulations; and,
- j. submit a report annually to World Athletics in accordance with the Rules and Regulations.

22.2 Each Area President shall ensure the obligations in Article 22.1 are met by its Area Association.

22.3 In the event of any inconsistency between the constitution, rules and regulations of an Area Association and the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of World Athletics, then to the extent of that inconsistency, the Constitution, Rules and Regulations of World Athletics will prevail.

23. Intervention and Sanctions on Area Associations

23.1 World Athletics may intervene in the governance or management of an Area Association for the same reasons and on the same basis as it may do for Member Federations, as set out in Article 12, so that every reference to Member Federations in that Article shall mean Area Associations.

23.2 In addition, Council may impose any one or more of the following sanctions on an Area Association if any of the grounds set out in Article 23.3 apply:

- a. set specific terms or conditions to be met or steps to be undertaken to the satisfaction of Council;
- b. issue a caution or censure;
- c. impose a fine;
- d. withhold grants or subsidies;
- e. exclude Area Officials from any International Competitions or from being an Official;
- f. remove or deny accreditation, or other benefits, to Area Officials and Officials who are resident in a Country in the Area, for International Competitions and other World Athletics events and activities;
- g. suspend the Area President from Council;
- h. impose any other sanctions it considers appropriate.

23.3 The grounds on which Council may impose a sanction under Article 23.2 are if the Area Association:

- a. is in breach of any one or more of its obligations under Article 22 (Obligations of Area Associations);
- b. is otherwise in breach of this Constitution or any Rule, Regulation or decision of Congress or Council; or
- c. acts in a manner which is contrary to the Purposes of World Athletics.

23.4 Before imposing any sanction on an Area Association, Council shall:

- a. notify the Area Association in writing of its proposal to impose a sanction including the reasons for such proposal; and,
- b. give the Area Association at least twenty-one (21) days to respond to the proposal to impose a sanction, unless Council considers there is urgency, in which case this period may be reduced to such lesser period as it sees fit in the circumstances.

23.5 If World Athletics intervenes into an Area Association under Article 23.1 or imposes a sanction on an Area Association under Article 23.2, neither action will affect the rights and obligations under this Constitution of the Member Federations which are members of the Area Association, unless Council undertakes separate steps, as permitted by this Constitution, Rules and Regulations, against any such Member Federation or any Member Federation Official.

PART IV – CONGRESS

24. Role of Congress

24.1 Congress is the highest authority of World Athletics and the sport of Athletics worldwide.

25. Composition of Congress

25.1 Congress consists of the Member Federations represented by up to three (3) Delegates each.

26. Meetings of Congress

26.1 Congress shall meet every two (2) Calendar Years in an Ordinary Congress meeting.

26.2 Every second meeting of Congress will be an Election Congress meeting, at which the President, Vice-Presidents and the Individual Council Members will be elected in accordance with Article 36 (Elections).

26.3 The date and venue of all meetings of Congress will be decided by Council and notified in accordance with Article 30 (Notice of Ordinary Congress Meeting) or Article 32 (Call and Notice of Special Congress Meeting), as applicable.

26.4 Council may decide, in exceptional circumstances, that an Ordinary Congress meeting is held virtually with none of the Delegates being physically present or held with some Delegates physically present and some attending the meeting virtually.

26.5 Council may decide to hold a Special Congress Meeting virtually with none of the Delegates being physically present or held with some Delegates physically present and some attending the meeting virtually. For the avoidance of doubt, exceptional circumstances do not need to exist for this decision to be made in relation to a Special Congress Meeting.

26.6 In addition to Ordinary Congress meetings, Congress may:

- a. meet in a Special Congress; or,
- b. make urgent decisions by written resolution electronically on extraordinary matters (as decided by Council).

26.7 The procedure for meetings of Congress shall be as specified in this Constitution and the Rules of Congress.

26.8 In addition to meetings of Congress, there shall be a Convention held in conjunction with each Ordinary Congress meeting, as described in Article 39.

27. Powers of Congress

27.1 The Congress has the powers set out in this Constitution, and in particular to:

- a. admit, suspend, expel and reinstate Members;
- b. amend this Constitution;
- c. elect and remove the President;
- d. elect and remove the Vice-Presidents;

- e. elect and remove Council Members;
- f. remove Executive Board Members;
- g. approve members of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal, upon the recommendation of Council;
- h. approve members of the Vetting Panel, upon the recommendation of Council;
- i. approve members and the proposed terms of office of the Integrity Unit Board, upon the recommendation of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel;
- j. approve and amend the World Plan for Athletics;
- k. receive annual reports from the Vetting Panel, the Integrity Unit Board and the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal;
- l. receive the Annual Council Report;
- m. appoint the Auditors, on the recommendation of the Executive Board;
- n. receive annual reports from the Auditors;
- o. grant the titles of Honorary Life President, Honorary Life Vice-President and Honorary Life Personal Members, on the recommendation of Council;
- p. grant awards for services to World Athletics and the sport of Athletics, on the recommendation of Council;
- q. dissolve World Athletics in accordance with Article 83;
- r. set the Membership Fee and Due Date for payment.

28. Delegates

- 28.1 Each Member Federation is entitled to elect or appoint up to three (3) Delegates to attend each Ordinary Congress meeting and any Special Congress meeting.
- 28.2 Each Member Federation is required to have at least one (1) Delegate attend all meetings of Congress.
- 28.3 World Athletics will arrange and meet, to the extent possible, the reasonable costs of travel and accommodation for one (1) Delegate to attend all meetings of Congress. Member Federations shall meet the costs of any other Delegates they wish to attend.
- 28.4 Each Delegate shall be:
 - a. a member of the Member Federation;
 - b. a Member Federation Official; and,
 - c. elected or appointed to be a Delegate by the executive body of the Member Federation in accordance with its constitution.
- 28.5 No member of Council, the Executive Board, the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal, the Integrity Unit Board, the Integrity Unit Appointments Panel, the Nominations Panel, the Vetting Panel, or any Staff may be a Delegate.

28.6 A person may not be a Delegate for more than one (1) Member Federation at any meeting of Congress.

28.7 The Delegates for each Member Federation attending a meeting of Congress shall be notified to World Athletics in accordance with the Rules and Regulations.

28.8 Each Member Federation represented by its Delegates at a meeting of Congress has the right to speak and vote. Each Member Federation is entitled to one (1) vote on each resolution before Congress.

29. Attendees and Observers

29.1 In addition to the Delegates, the following persons shall attend meetings of Congress as Attendees:

- a. President;
- b. Vice-Presidents;
- c. Area Presidents;
- d. chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission who are members of Council;
- e. Individual Council Members; and,
- f. Executive Board Members.

29.2 All Attendees have the right to speak at meetings of Congress but have no right to vote.

29.3 In addition to the Delegates and the Attendees, the following persons are entitled to be Observers at meetings of Congress:

- a. chairpersons of Commissions;
- b. Honorary Life Presidents;
- c. Honorary Life Vice-Presidents;
- d. Honorary Life Personal Members;
- e. chairpersons of the Vetting Panel, Integrity Unit Board, and Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal;
- f. Chief Executive Officer and other Staff if requested by the Chief Executive Officer;
- g. Auditors; and,
- h. other persons invited by Council or the President, which may include advisors to World Athletics.

29.4 In addition, the following persons may, in Council's discretion, be invited to attend Congress as Observers:

- a. members of Commissions and Working Groups;

- b. members of sub-committees, taskforces and other groups appointed by the Executive Board; and,
- c. up to three (3) Area representatives from each Area, in addition to the Area Presidents.

29.5 Observers shall only have the right to speak at meetings of Congress if approved by the chairperson of the Congress meeting and shall have no right to vote.

29.6 Meetings of Congress shall be open and, if room permits (as decided by the Chief Executive Officer), any other person may attend meetings of Congress, provided they meet any registration requirements and are permitted, in the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer, to attend. Such persons may not speak or vote at meetings of Congress.

29.7 All meetings of Congress will, if reasonably practicable, be broadcast or otherwise made accessible to the public, other than matters the Congress decides by Simple Majority, to be kept confidential.

30. Notice of Ordinary Congress Meeting

30.1 The Chief Executive Officer shall, in usual circumstances, give not less than twelve (12) months (or such shorter period as Council shall, in exceptional circumstances, decide) written notice of each Ordinary Congress meeting to all Member Federations and Area Associations.

30.2 This notice shall specify:

- a. the date, time and venue in which the Ordinary Congress meeting is to be held;
- b. the date and time by which notification of the Delegates of the Member Federations for the Ordinary Congress meeting shall be received by the Chief Executive Officer;
- c. if an Election Congress meeting, the positions to be elected and the date and time by which nominations for them shall be received by the Chief Executive Officer (being three (3) months prior to the Election Congress meeting);
- d. the date and time by which any proposed resolutions and other items of business of Congress (as specified in Article 31) are to be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer (being six (6) months prior to the Ordinary Congress meeting).

30.3 If the Council decides that a Congress meeting is to be held virtually or with some of the delegates being present physically and some virtually, Council will give as much notice of this to the Member Federations and Area Associations as is reasonably practicable in the circumstances.

31. Agenda for Ordinary Congress Meeting

31.1 An agenda containing the business to be discussed at an Ordinary Congress meeting shall be sent by the Chief Executive Officer to the Area Associations and Member Federations by no later than two (2) months before the date of the Ordinary Congress meeting. The business on the agenda shall include the following:

- a. presentation of the Annual Council Report, including the audited financial statements and Auditor's reports, for the preceding financial year;

- b. receipt and approval of annual reports from the Vetting Panel, Integrity Unit Board and the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal covering the preceding financial year;
- c. any resolution(s) proposing to amend this Constitution;
- d. if an Election Congress meeting, the election of the positions of President, Vice-Presidents and Individual Council Members;
- e. approval of any members of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal, upon the recommendation of Council;
- f. approval of any members of the Vetting Panel, upon the recommendation of Council;
- g. approval of any Independent Members of the Integrity Unit Board, upon the recommendation of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel;
- h. any other items of business that have been properly submitted in accordance with this Constitution, the Rules and Regulations, for consideration at the Ordinary Congress meeting.

32. Call and Notice of Special Congress Meeting and Urgent Decisions by Written Resolution

- 32.1 The Chief Executive Officer shall call a Special Congress meeting, as soon as practicable, upon a written request from:
 - a. the Council; or
 - b. one third (1/3rd) or more of the Member Federations.
- 32.2 A request made under Article 32.1 to call a Special Congress meeting, shall state:
 - a. the specific purpose for which the Special Congress meeting is being called; and,
 - b. the specific resolution(s) on which the Delegates are requested to vote.
- 32.3 On receipt of the request to call a Special Congress meeting, the Chief Executive Officer shall give not less than three (3) months' notice to the Members and Area Associations of:
 - a. the date, time and venue in which the Special Congress meeting is to be held;
 - b. whether Council plans to hold the Special Congress meeting virtually or with some of the delegates being present physically and some virtually;
 - c. the date and time by which notification of the Delegates of the Member Federations shall be received by the Chief Executive Officer; and,
 - d. the proposed resolution(s) that have been properly submitted for consideration.
- 32.4 The Council may propose a written resolution be sent electronically to the Member Federations for approval. A resolution consented to by the requisite majority of a quorum of Member Federations shall be valid as if passed at an Ordinary Congress with Delegates present and voting.

33. Quorum

- 33.1 No business shall be transacted at any meeting of Congress unless a quorum is present at the time when the meeting is due to commence (as set out in the notice of the Congress meeting) and at all times during the meeting.
- 33.2 The quorum for a meeting of Congress shall be no less than one third (1/3rd) of the total number of Members entitled to vote.
- 33.3 If a quorum is not obtained within thirty (30) minutes of the scheduled commencement time of the meeting of Congress, then the meeting shall be adjourned to a later time on that day, or the next day, at a time and place as determined by the Council. If no quorum is obtained at this meeting of Congress, then the persons present at such second meeting of Congress are deemed to constitute a valid quorum.

34. Chairperson

- 34.1 The chairperson of Congress is the President.
- 34.2 If the President is unavailable for a Congress meeting, the Senior Vice-President will be the chairperson for that meeting, or if the Senior Vice-President is not available then Council shall appoint one (1) of the remaining Vice-Presidents to be the chairperson for that meeting.

35. Voting

- 35.1 Voting at Congress shall be conducted in accordance with the Rules of Congress.
- 35.2 Resolutions of Congress shall be passed by an Absolute Majority, unless a Special Majority is expressly specified in the Constitution and except for elections where the Rules of Congress provide that the highest-polling candidate is declared elected.
- 35.3 In the event of a tie in the votes on a resolution or decision of Congress, the resolution or decision shall not be carried and the vote is lost, except for a tie in votes in an election under Article 36 in which case Article 35.4 shall apply. The President is not entitled to a casting vote for tied votes.
- 35.4 In the event there is a tie in the number of votes for the highest-polling candidates in an election under Article 36, a second vote shall be taken between the tied candidates for the position being elected, and the highest-polling candidate in that vote will be declared elected.

36. Elections

- 36.1 Elections for the President, Vice-Presidents and Individual Council Members (the composition of which is specified in Article 41) shall be undertaken by secret ballot in the manner specified in the Rules of Congress.
- 36.2 Only Member Federations may nominate candidates to be elected for President, Vice-Presidents and Individual Council Members. Each candidate must be Eligible in accordance with Article 65 (Eligibility) and be a member of, or be affiliated to, the Member Federation which is nominating them. The procedure for nominating candidates will be as set out in the Rules and Regulations. Member Federations can only nominate one candidate to be a Council Member but may nominate that candidate for different positions on the Council. All Council Members (other than the Athletes' Commission members described in Article 41.1(d)) must be elected by the Congress or the Area Association.

36.3 The order for elections shall be as follows:

- a. Election of President;
- b. Election of Vice-Presidents;
- c. Election of Individual Council Members.

36.4 Election of President

- a. The President shall be elected by the Member Federations through their Delegates present at the Congress meeting in accordance with the Rules of Congress.
- b. The candidate for the position of President who receives an Absolute Majority on the first round shall be declared elected. If no candidate receives an Absolute Majority in the first round, then the lowest polling candidate shall be removed and a second round of voting for all the remaining candidates for the position of President shall be undertaken. This process shall be repeated until a candidate for the position of President receives an Absolute Majority.

36.5 Election of Vice-Presidents

- a. The four (4) Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the Member Federations through their Delegates present at the Congress meeting in accordance with the Rules of Congress.
- b. The Vice-Presidents must each be from Member Federations in different Areas. There must be two female and two male Vice-Presidents elected at the 2027 Election Congress and at each Election Congress thereafter.
- c. Voting for the Vice-Presidents shall be undertaken in accordance with the Rules of Congress.

36.6 Election of Individual Council Members:

- a. The thirteen (13) Individual Council Members shall be elected by the Member Federations through their Delegates present at the Congress meeting casting a vote for thirteen (13) Council Members in accordance with the Rules of Congress.
- b. Following the election of the President and Vice-Presidents, the Initial Numbers of Each Sex shall be counted and declared to Congress prior to the election of the Individual Council Members.
- c. The Individual Council Members Number of Each Sex to be elected by Congress for the remaining thirteen (13) available positions on Council shall be declared to Congress prior to the vote .

36.7 If there are insufficient candidates to fulfil the minimum number of each sex for either the Vice-Presidents or the Individual Council Members, the position(s) shall remain vacant and filled as a casual vacancy in accordance with Article 45 (Vacancies).

37. Minutes

37.1 Minutes shall be kept of all meetings of Congress and made available to all Member Federations, Area Associations and other persons who attend Congress as Attendees or Observers as specified in Article 29 (Attendees and Observers).

38. Irregularity, Errors or Omissions

38.1 Any irregularity, error or omission in notices, agendas and relevant papers for a meeting of Congress and any other error in the organisation of a meeting of Congress shall not invalidate the meeting nor prevent the meeting from considering the business of the meeting provided that:

- a. the chairperson of the meeting in their discretion determines that it is still appropriate for the meeting to proceed despite the irregularity, error or omission; and,
- b. a resolution to proceed is put to the Congress meeting to proceed and carried by Special Majority.

39. Convention

39.1 A Convention may be held in conjunction with an Ordinary Congress meeting but must be held at least once every four years at a non-Election Congress

39.2 The purpose of the Convention is to discuss ideas, developments and issues facing Athletics and World Athletics.

39.3 The programme for the Convention shall be decided by Council, after consultation with Member Federations and Area Associations.

39.4 Each Member Federation will be entitled to have, at its cost, such number of representatives (in addition to the Delegates), attend the Convention as is decided by Council, depending on venue capacity.

PART V – COUNCIL

40. Role of Council

40.1 The role of Council is to govern the sport of Athletics as set out in this Part V.

41. Membership of Council

41.1 Council shall be comprised of:

- a. the President, elected by Congress in accordance with Article 36.4;
- b. four (4) Vice-Presidents, elected by Congress in accordance with Article 36.5. One (1) of the four (4) Vice-Presidents shall be the Senior Vice-President elected by Council in accordance with Article 55.5;
- c. subject to Articles 44.3 and 44.4, six (6) Area Presidents, elected by each Area Association in accordance with Article 22.1(e);
- d. the chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission elected by the members of the Athletes' Commission from amongst the elected members of the Athletes' Commission, who shall be of each sex;
- e. thirteen (13) Individual Council Members, elected by Congress in accordance with Article 36.6,

and within its composition the Council must contain the Minimum Number of Each Sex.

41.2 There shall not be more than one (1) Council Member (in any capacity) from any one (1) Member Federation Country except that this Article shall not apply to the members of the Athletes' Commission on the Council as set out in Article 41.1(d);

41.3 An Area President cannot be a Council Member in any other capacity (including as an Individual Council Member) at the same time as being an Area President. If an Area President is elected at Congress as a Council Member, they must immediately resign from office as Area President, and the Area Association must elect a replacement Area President, who shall be a member of Council in that capacity.

42. Chairperson of Council

42.1 The chairperson of Council is the President.

42.2 If the President is unavailable for a Council meeting, the Senior Vice-President will be the chairperson for that meeting, or if the Senior Vice-President is not available then Council shall appoint one (1) of the remaining Vice-Presidents to be the chairperson for that meeting.

43. Eligibility

43.1 A person seeking to be a Council Member (in any capacity), or to remain in office as a Council Member (in any capacity) must be Eligible in accordance with Article 65 (Eligibility).

44. Term of Office

44.1 The term of office for all Council Members shall be four (4) years, commencing at the

commencement of the first Council meeting held after the Election Congress meeting at which their election is made or appointment is effective, and expiring at the commencement of the first Council meeting held after the next Election Congress meeting.

44.2 A person who is appointed to fill a casual vacancy in accordance with Article 45.2, who was not previously serving on the Council before they were appointed to fill that casual vacancy, shall hold office from the commencement of the first Council meeting held after their appointment and time spent filling that casual vacancy shall not (if they have served for two years or less in the casual vacancy) count towards the maximum term of office set out in Article 44.3.

44.3 Subject to Article 44.4, the maximum number of terms of office for any Council Member is three (3) terms in aggregate. For the purposes of calculating terms of office the following applies:

- any term served by a Council Member in any capacity prior to the 2019 Election Congress will count as one term of office towards the maximum number of terms of office;
- any term served by a Council Member on the Executive Board will be counted as a term of office for the purposes of calculating the maximum number of terms of office on either the Executive Board or Council.

44.4 The exceptions to the maximum number of three (3) terms of office set out in Article 44.3 are as follows:

- for the President the maximum term is as specified in Article 53.2;
- for the chairperson or deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission, any term of office served on Council as chairperson or deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission does not count towards the maximum number of terms of office if they are elected to another position on the Council;
- whilst a person may only serve a maximum of three terms on the Council as Area President, if a person has served in any other capacity on the Council before being elected as Area President, such a person may serve additional terms on the Council provided that these additional terms are only in the position of Area President on the Council and that the total maximum number of terms on the Council does not exceed five.

44.5 Except for the President (where Article 53.3 applies) and an Area President (where Article 44.4 (c) applies), any Council Member that was a Previous Council Member for a term or terms of office prior to the 2019 Election Congress meeting, shall be entitled (if re-elected or appointed to Council or the Executive Board) to a maximum of two (2) further terms of office on Council and/or the Executive Board expiring at the 2027 Election Congress meeting, regardless of the number of terms of office served on Previous Councils.

44.6 This Article 44 is subject to Article 45 (Vacancies), and Article 46.2 (Removal of Council Member).

45. **Vacancies**

45.1 **Casual Vacancy:** A casual vacancy in the position of a Council Member arises if, prior to the expiry of a Council Member's term of office, one of the following circumstances occurs:

- a. resignation of the Council Member, in writing, from office;
- b. death of the Council Member;
- c. removal from office of the Council Member under Article 46.2 (Removal of Council Member);
- d. cessation from office of the Council Member under Article 65.6 (Cessation of Office);
- e. failure by the Council Member to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Council without prior excuse from the President or Council;
- f. an insufficient number of candidates to fill the Minimum Number of Each Sex requirements to be a Vice-President or Individual Council Member;
- g. in the case of an Area President, the Council Member has, for whatever reason, ceased to be the Area President or has exceeded the maximum number of terms to be on the Council pursuant to Articles 44.3 and 44.4; and,
- h. in the case of the chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission, the Council Member has, for whatever reason, ceased to be the chairperson or deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission respectively.

45.2 Vacancies: If a casual vacancy arises on the Council under Article 45.1 (Casual Vacancy) it shall be filled for the balance of the term of office of the vacating Council Member as follows:

- a. If the vacant position is the President, the Senior Vice-President will become the interim President, and if they are not available, then one (1) of the other Vice-Presidents as decided by Simple Majority of Council will become the interim President;
- b. If the vacant position is the Senior Vice-President, one (1) of the other Vice-Presidents, as decided by Simple Majority of Council, will become interim Senior Vice-President;
- c. If the vacant position is for a Vice-President, then one (1) of the Individual Council Members of the applicable sex, decided by Simple Majority of Council, will become an interim Vice-President;
- d. If the vacant position is an Area President, the person who is democratically elected (in accordance with Article 22.1(e)) as the replacement president of the Area Association will be the Area President on Council, unless that election is scheduled to be six (6) months or more after the date that the casual vacancy arises, in which case, a vice-president of the Area Association (as elected by the Area Council) will become the interim Area President on Council until the election for the Area President is held;
- e. If the position is the chairperson of the Athletes' Commission, the person who is elected by the Athletes' Commission of the applicable sex as the replacement for that position, will become chairperson of the Athletes' Commission;
- f. If the position is the deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission, the person who is elected by the Athletes' Commission of the applicable sex to be the other member of Council, will be the replacement person for that position;
- g. If the position is any Individual Council Member, then if the casual vacancy

arises two (2) years or less before the next Election Congress meeting, it will remain vacant until the next Election Congress meeting. If the casual vacancy arises more than two (2) years before the next Election Congress then the Council shall decide if the vacancy shall be filled and, if so, shall determine the procedure for candidates to fill that casual vacancy in accordance with the Candidacy Rules. Any election to fill that casual vacancy shall be held by Electronic Voting in accordance with the Candidacy Rules.

46. Suspension and Removal of a Council Member

46.1 Suspension of Council Member

- a. Council may, by Special Majority, suspend a Council Member from Council if a Council Member:
 - i. is under investigation by a Relevant Authority for, or is charged with, or is given notice by a Relevant Authority of, a proposal to make an order or finding against that Council Member in respect of any of the circumstances described in Articles 65.4(b) to 65.4(k) inclusive (Ineligibility);
 - ii. is, in Council's opinion, in breach of one or more of their duties under Article 47.1; or
 - iii. is alleged to have breached, or is under investigation by an Area Association or a Member Federation for alleged breach of any rules of the Area Association or the Member Federation.
- b. Before making a decision under Article 46.1(a), Council shall provide the Council Member against whom the suspension is proposed;
 - i. written notice of the proposed suspension including the grounds and reasons for such proposal;
 - ii. the right to make submissions to Council within a reasonable period being not less than forty-eight (48) hours after sending the Council Member notice of the proposed suspension.
- c. A suspension under this Article 46.1 shall be for a period not longer than twelve (12) months, and may be subject to such terms and conditions as Council considers appropriate. A suspension imposed under this Article may be extended by Special Majority of Council for a further period until the next Ordinary Congress meeting if reasonably justified in the circumstances.
- d. In addition to suspension by Council under Article 46.1(a), if a Council Member is suspended (including provisionally suspended) or otherwise declared Ineligible under Article 65.4 pending the outcome of any investigation or charges being decided by a Relevant Authority, the Council Member shall automatically be suspended from Council for the period of that suspension or Ineligibility, without any further decision of Council.
- e. If a Council Member is suspended from Council under any provision of this Article 46, and is also an Executive Board Member, or a member of the Integrity Unit Board or a member of the Integrity Unit Board Appointment Panel they shall automatically be suspended from those positions on the Executive Board (in whatever capacity they are an Executive Board Member), the Integrity Unit Board or Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel, as applicable.

46.2 Removal of a Council Member:

- a. A Council Member may be removed as a Council Member before the expiration of their term of office on one or more of the following grounds:
 - i. if they are found by the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal to be in repeated or persistent breach of duties by the Council Member under Article 47.1;
 - ii. if they are found to be no longer Eligible to hold office as a Council Member by the Vetting Panel;
 - iii. Council determines that they be removed following a decision of a Relevant Authority, the effect of which renders them unsuitable to hold office as a Council Member.
- b. For the avoidance of doubt, any challenge to a decision made under this Article 46.2(a) will be dealt with in accordance with Article 84, below.
- c. If a Council Member is removed from Council under this Article 46.2, and is also an Executive Board Member, or a member of the Integrity Unit Board or a member of the Integrity Unit Board Appointment Panel, they shall automatically be removed from those positions on the Executive Board (in whatever capacity they are an Executive Board Member), the Integrity Unit Board or the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel, as applicable.

47. Duties and Powers of Council Members

47.1 **Duties:** The duties of each Council Member are to:

- a. consider the interests of Athletics and World Athletics as a whole throughout the World;
- b. at all times act in good faith and in the best interests of World Athletics;
- c. exercise the powers of Council for proper purposes;
- d. act, and ensure World Athletics acts, in accordance with this Constitution and its Rules and Regulations including but not limited to the Integrity Code of Conduct;
- e. be bound by all Council decisions and act in accordance with the principle of collective responsibility;
- f. not agree to, nor cause or allow, the activities of World Athletics to be carried on in a manner likely to create a substantial risk of serious loss to World Athletics' creditors;
- g. not agree to World Athletics incurring any obligations unless the Council Member believes at that time, on reasonable grounds, that World Athletics will be able to perform the obligations when it is required to do so;
- h. except for the President, not speak or make statements publicly on behalf of World Athletics unless authorised to do so by the President, or in accordance with delegated authority in writing from the Council or the Executive Board. Council Members may make statements about World Athletics in accordance with Rules or Regulations set by the Council from time to time;

- i. exercise the care, diligence and skill that a reasonable Council Member would exercise in the same circumstances;
- j. in addition to any other steps specified in the Rules or Regulations, disclose to World Athletics the nature and extent of any interest in a transaction or proposed transaction of World Athletics as soon as the Council Member becomes aware of the fact that they have such interest;
- k. not disclose or distribute confidential information, other than in their capacity as a Council Member, to any person, or make use of or act on the confidential information except:
 - i. as agreed by the Council for the purposes of World Athletics;
 - ii. as required by law; or
 - iii. as ordered to do so by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- l. make reasonable efforts to attend and actively participate in all Council meetings and Congress meetings;
- m. use their best efforts to consult widely with Member Federations, Area Associations, athletes and others who participate and have an interest in Athletics, to keep abreast of the issues facing them. Nothing in this Article waives the duty of confidentiality in respect of information disclosed to them as Council Members under Article 47.1(k); and,
- n. participate in an annual review of Council's performance in the manner decided by Council.

47.2 Powers and Responsibilities of Council: Council has the powers and responsibilities to:

- a. approve provisional membership and provisionally suspend Member Federations under Article 7.6 and Article 13.1 respectively;
- b. develop the World Plan for Athletics for approval by Congress and regularly monitor progress against that plan;
- c. approve and review World Athletics Strategic Plan, on the recommendation of the Executive Board, and regularly monitor progress against that plan;
- d. adopt, amend and repeal Rules and Regulations;
- e. approve the Annual Council Report for circulation to Congress;
- f. consider and make recommendations to Congress for amendments to the Constitution;
- g. consider and make recommendations to Congress for:
 - i. the granting of the following titles: Honorary Life Presidents, Honorary Life Vice-Presidents and Honorary Life Personal Members;
 - ii. the recognition of awards to be granted for service and contribution to Athletics and World Athletics;
- h. recommend to Congress the amount of the Membership Fee, and decide on

the Due Date on the recommendation of the Executive Board;

- i. review the existing International Competitions and competition structure, decide on new competitions and event, approve the annual and multi-year International Competition programme and select hosts and locations of International Competitions;
- j. approve and amend policies and procedures for the appointment and training of officials for International Competitions;
- k. appoint officials including technical officials for International Competitions;
- l. recognise world records;
- m. approve, monitor and assess a Development Programme for the benefit of Member Federations for the global advancement of Athletics;
- n. establish and disestablish such Commissions (including an Athletes' Commission) and Working Groups as it considers appropriate including determining how members of those Commissions and Working Groups are appointed and removed, and monitoring their progress;
- o. establish and disestablish such other bodies, panels, or taskforces with delegated authority from Council, as decided by Council;
- p. consider and make recommendations to Congress to approve members of the Vetting Panel;
- q. make and amend Rules and Regulations for the establishment and authority of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal;
- r. consider and make recommendations to Congress to approve members of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal;
- s. elect a Council Member to be a member of the Integrity Unit Board under Article 73.2(b);
- t. make and amend Rules and Regulations for the establishment and authority of the Integrity Unit;
- u. elect a Council Member to be a member of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel under Article 74.2(c) and approve the Independent chairperson of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel, on the recommendation of the Executive Board under Article 74.2(b);
- v. establish, and monitor the performance of, such bodies and entities as it considers appropriate to further the Purposes of World Athletics and in which World Athletics has an interest, on the recommendation of the Executive Board;
- w. approve the programme for the Convention;
- x. define and monitor delegations of authority from the Council to the President, Vice-Presidents, Individual Council Members and the Executive Board;
- y. establish and disestablish panels or committees with authority to hear and resolve any issues and/or disputes that are specifically referred to them by the Rules and Regulations (including but not limited to disciplinary cases seeking sanctions for alleged breach of the Rules and Regulations);

- z. resolve and determine any disputes or matters not provided for in this Constitution; and,
- aa. do all other acts and things which are specified in this Constitution, Rules and Regulations to be undertaken by Council.

48. Status of Council Members in Area Associations and Member Federations

48.1 A Council Member shall, as of right:

- a. be a voting member of the executive body of the Member Federation in the Country in which the Council Member is a Citizen;
- b. be entitled to attend and speak at the general assembly held annually by that Member Federation; and,
- c. be entitled to attend and speak at Area Council meetings of the Area Association to which that Member Federation is a member;
- d. be entitled to attend and speak at the general assembly held annually by that Area Association.

49. Council Meetings and Procedures

49.1 **Council Meetings:**

- a. Council will meet at least three times in each Calendar Year.
- b. Council meetings may be called at any time by the President or at the request of the Executive Board, on fourteen (14) days' notice, unless a matter is urgent, in which case the notice period may be reduced to no less than twelve (12) hours.
- c. Except to the extent specified in this Constitution, the Rules and Regulations, Council shall regulate its own procedure.

49.2 **Meetings using Technology:** Any one (1) or more Council Members (including Council as a whole) may participate in any meeting of the Council and vote on any proposed resolution at a meeting of the Council without being physically present. Such meetings may occur by telephone, through video conference facilities or by other means of electronic communication (other than electronic mail (email) communication) provided that prior notice of the meeting is given to all Council Members and all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear each other effectively and simultaneously. Participation by any Council Member in this manner at a meeting shall constitute the presence of that Council Member at that meeting.

49.3 **Quorum:** The minimum number of Council members who shall be present to obtain a quorum for a Council meeting shall be 50% plus 1 of the total number of Council Members.

49.4 **Voting:**

- a. Each Council Member present at a Council meeting shall have one (1) vote on each resolution.
- b. All resolutions of Council shall be carried by an Absolute Majority, unless a Special Majority is expressly specified in the Constitution, Rules or Regulations.

- c. In the event of a tie in votes, the President shall have both a deliberative and a casting vote, unless the resolution directly affects the President, in which case a replacement chairperson as described in Article 42.2 shall be the chairperson of the meeting for that resolution.
- d. Except for resolutions passed outside of a Council meeting under Article 49.5 (Resolutions), voting at Council meetings shall be by voice, or upon request of any Council Member, by a show of hands or by secret ballot. Proxy voting is not permitted at Council meetings.

49.5 **Resolutions:** A resolution in writing signed or consented to by email, facsimile or other forms of visible or other electronic communication by a quorum of Council Members under Article 49.3, shall be valid as if it had been passed at a meeting of Council. Any such resolution may consist of several documents in the same form each signed or consented to by one (1) or more of Council Members.

PART VI – PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

50. **Role of President**

50.1 The role of the President is to be the lead representative of World Athletics and the sport of Athletics.

51. **Eligibility**

51.1 The President must be Eligible in accordance with Article 65 (Eligibility).

52. **Election of President**

52.1 The President will be elected at each Election Congress meeting in accordance with Article 36.4.

52.2 Area Presidents and chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission may not hold office as President at the same time. An Area President or chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission may seek election to be President, but if successful, must immediately resign from office as Area President, or as a member of the Athletes' Commission, as applicable.

53. **Term of Office of President**

53.1 The term of office for the President shall be four (4) years, commencing at the first Council meeting held after the Election Congress meeting at which their election is made, and expiring at the commencement of the first Council meeting held after the next Election Congress meeting.

53.2 Subject to Article 53.3, the maximum number of terms of office for the President is three (3) in the position of President, provided that, if a Previous Council Member is elected as President that person shall be entitled to serve a total maximum of five (5) terms (including any prior terms of office on Council, in any capacity).

53.3 The President who is in office prior to the 2019 Election Congress meeting, shall be entitled (if re-elected as President) to serve a maximum of two (2) further terms of office as President (expiring at the first Council meeting held after the 2027 Election Congress meeting), regardless of the number of terms of office previously served on Previous Councils (in any capacity) or as President.

53.4 This Article is subject to Article 45.2 (Vacancies) and Article 46.2 (Removal of Council Member).

54. Duties and Powers of President

54.1 **Duties:** The President has the duties set out in Article 47 as a Council Member, and Article 58.1 as a member of the Executive Board.

54.2 **Powers and Responsibilities:** The President has the powers and responsibilities to:

- a. be the lead representative for World Athletics and the sport of Athletics;
- b. be the main spokesperson for World Athletics in accordance with policies decided by the Executive Board, which may include delegating this responsibility to others;
- c. chair meetings of Congress;
- d. lead the work of Council including ensuring Council is organised properly, functions effectively, acts within its powers and meets its obligations and responsibilities;
- e. lead the work of the Executive Board including ensuring the Executive Board (and its committees) is organised properly, functions effectively, acts within its powers, and meets its obligations and responsibilities;
- f. oversee the activities of the Commissions and Working Groups, between Council meetings, including ensuring they are functioning effectively, acting within their powers and meeting their obligations and responsibilities, as decided by Council;
- g. be an ex officio voting member of all Commissions and Working Groups, attending such meetings of them as they consider appropriate;
- h. ensure the decisions of Congress, Council and the Executive Board are implemented, and the Constitution, Rules and Regulations are complied with;
- i. liaise and facilitate effective communication and relationships with Member Federations, Area Associations, sponsors and other stakeholders;
- j. support, monitor and liaise with the Chief Executive Officer to form a strong, collaborative working relationship, with regular contact between them, on behalf of the Executive Board;
- k. only authorise transactions, and sign any documentation, on behalf of World Athletics with at least one other person from the Executive Board or the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with decisions, policies and procedures decided by the Executive Board or within delegated authority in writing from Council or the Executive Board;
- l. perform such other tasks and duties as are delegated to the President by Congress, Council and the Executive Board.

55. Vice-Presidents

55.1 There shall be four (4) Vice-Presidents elected at each Election Congress meeting in accordance with Article 36.5.

55.2 There shall be no more than one Vice-President from any one Area.

55.3 All Vice-Presidents must be Eligible in accordance with Article 65 (Eligibility).

55.4 Area Presidents and the chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission may not hold office as Vice-President. An Area President or member of the Athletes' Commission on Council may seek election to be a Vice-President, but if successful, must immediately resign from office as Area President, or member of the Athletes' Commission, as applicable.

55.5 One (1) of the four (4) Vice-Presidents shall be elected as the Senior Vice-President by Council, after consultation with the President, at the first Council meeting following the conclusion of each Election Congress meeting.

55.6 The role of the Senior Vice-President is to deputise for the President, as requested by the President.

55.7 The role of the Vice-Presidents is to:

- a. deputise for the President if neither the President nor the Senior Vice-President are able to act, as, either on an ad hoc or a standing basis, at the direction of the President;
- b. be members of the Executive Board;
- c. be members of Council.

55.8 A Vice-President may be appointed as the Council Member on the Integrity Unit Board, or the Council Member on the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel, but may not be elected to the Nominations Panel.

55.9 The term of office of a Vice-President is the same term as the Vice-President has as a Council Member as set out in Article 44 (Term of Office).

PART VII – EXECUTIVE BOARD

56. Role of Executive Board

56.1 The role of the Executive Board is to govern World Athletics as set out in this Part VII.

57. Membership of the Executive Board

57.1 The Executive Board shall be comprised of:

- a. the President;
- b. the four (4) Vice-Presidents;

(together referred to as Ex Officio EB Members);

- c. three (3) Appointed EB Members, appointed by the Ex Officio EB Members upon the recommendation of the Nominations Panel under Article 60.2(e); and
- d. the Chief Executive Officer (non-voting).

57.2 From the 2027 Election Congress, there shall be a minimum of three (3) members of each sex on the Executive Board.

57.3 Except for the Chief Executive Officer, there must not be more than one (1) Executive Board Member from any one (1) Member Federation Country.

57.4 The Area Presidents and the chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Athletes' Commission, may not be appointed as Appointed EB Members but any other person who is Eligible may be appointed as an Appointed EB Member including Individual Council Members, Member Federation Officials or persons who are not members of a Member Federation or otherwise formally associated with the sport of Athletics.

57.5 **Eligibility:** All members of the Executive Board must be Eligible under Article 65 (Eligibility).

57.6 Chairperson of Executive Board

- a. The chairperson of the Executive Board is the President.
- b. If the President is unavailable for an Executive Board meeting, the Senior Vice-President will be the chairperson for that meeting. If the Senior Vice-President is not available, then the Executive Board shall appoint one of the remaining Vice-Presidents to be the chairperson for that meeting.

57.7 **Term of Office:** The term of office for Executive Board Members shall be as follows:

- a. For the Ex Officio EB Members (other than the President), the term of office on the Executive Board is the same as their term of office as a Council Member. If any Ex Officio EB Member ceases to be a Council Member, they shall automatically cease to be a member of the Executive Board. The term of office of the President on the Executive Board is the same as their term of office as President.
- b. For the Appointed EB Members, the term of office shall be approximately four (4) years from their appointment to the Executive Board.

- c. Subject to Article 57.7(d), the maximum number of terms of office for any member of the Executive Board is three (3) terms except that for the President, the maximum term is as specified under Article 53 (Term of Office of President). Any term served by an Executive Board Member on Council will be counted as a term of office for the purposes of calculating the maximum number of terms of office on the Executive Board or Council.
- d. Any Executive Board Member that was a Previous Council Member for a term or terms of office prior to the 2019 Election Congress meeting, shall be entitled (if re-elected or appointed to Council or the Executive Board) to a maximum of two (2) further terms of office on the Executive Board expiring at the 2027 Election Congress meeting, regardless of the number of terms of office served on Previous Councils.
- e. This Article 57.7 is subject to Article 57.8 (Vacancies) and Article 57.9 (Suspension of Executive Board Member).
- f. The Appointed Members shall remain in office until their successors have been appointed **provided that this does not exceed a period of three months following the conclusion of the Election Congress four years after their last appointment.**

57.8 Vacancies

- a. For the purposes of this Article, a casual vacancy shall have the same meaning as that described in Article 45.1 except that every reference to Council and Council Member in that Article shall mean Executive Board and Executive Board Member respectively.
- b. If a casual vacancy arises in any Ex Officio EB Member's position, it shall be filled in accordance with Article 45.2 (Vacancies).
- c. If a casual vacancy arises in an Appointed EB Member's positions, the following shall apply:
 - i. If an Election Congress meeting is to be held in less than six (6) months from the date the vacancy arose, the remaining Executive Board Members may either appoint a person of their choice to fill the vacancy, or leave the vacancy unfilled until that Election Congress meeting.
 - ii. If an Election Congress meeting is to be held in six (6) months or more from the date the vacancy arose, it shall be filled for the balance of the term of office of the vacating Executive Board Member in accordance with the procedure in Article 60.2 and the appointment shall take effect immediately upon notification by the Executive Board to the Appointed EB Member concerned.

57.9 Suspension of Executive Board Member

- a. The Executive Board may, by Special Majority, suspend an Executive Board Member from the Executive Board, if the Executive Board Member:
 - i. is under investigation by a Relevant Authority, or is charged with, or is given notice by a Relevant Authority of a proposal to make an order or finding against that Executive Board Member in respect of any of the circumstances described in Article 65.4 (Ineligibility);
 - ii. is, in the Executive Board's opinion, in breach of one or more of their duties under Article 58; or

- iii. is alleged to have breached, or is under investigation, by an Area Association or a Member Federation for alleged breach of any rules of the Area Association or Member Federation.
- b. Before making a decision under Article 57.9(a), the Executive Board shall provide the Executive Board Member against whom the suspension is proposed:
 - i. written notice of the proposed suspension including the grounds and reasons for such proposal;
 - ii. the right to make submissions to the Executive Board within a reasonable period being not less than twenty-four (24) hours after giving notice of the proposed suspension.
- c. A suspension under this Article shall be for a period not longer than twelve (12) months, and may be subject to such terms and conditions as the Executive Board by Simple Majority considers appropriate. A suspension imposed under this Article may be extended by the Executive Board for a further period of twelve (12) months if reasonably justified in the circumstances.
- d. In addition to suspension by Executive Board under Article 57.9(a), if an Executive Board Member is suspended (including provisionally suspended) or otherwise declared Ineligible under Article 65.4 pending the outcome of any investigation or charges being decided by a Relevant Authority, the Executive Board Member shall automatically be suspended from the Executive Board for the period of that suspension or Ineligibility, without any further decision of the Executive Board.

57.10 Removal of Executive Board Member:

- a. An Executive Board Member may be removed from the Executive Board before the expiration of their term of office on one or more of the following grounds:
 - i. if they are found by the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal to be in repeated or persistent breach of their duties under Article 58.1;
 - ii. if they are found to be no longer Eligible to hold office as an Executive Board Member by the Vetting Panel;
 - iii. if the Executive Board determines that they be removed following a decision of a Relevant Authority the effect of which renders them unsuitable to hold office as an Executive Board Member.
- b. If an Executive Board Member is removed from the Executive Board under this Article 57.10, and is also a Council Member, they shall automatically be removed as a Council Member (in whatever capacity they are an Executive Board Member).

58. Duties and Powers of Executive Board Members

- 58.1 **Duties of Executive Board Members:** The duties of all Executive Board Members shall be the same as for Council Members under Article 47.1 except that every reference to Council in that Article shall mean Executive Board.
- 58.2 **Powers and Responsibilities of Executive Board:** The Executive Board shall have

the powers and responsibility to:

- a. develop and review the Strategic Plan, for approval by Council;
- b. adopt and review an annual plan and budget for World Athletics;
- c. appoint (including all terms and conditions of such appointment) and monitor the performance of the Chief Executive Officer and, if necessary, terminate such appointment;
- d. monitor progress against the annual plan, budget and the Strategic Plan;
- e. make recommendations to Council for the Membership Fee including the Due Date for payment;
- f. identify and manage risks to World Athletics;
- g. define and monitor delegations of authority from the Executive Board to the Chief Executive Officer;
- h. consider and recommend Rules for approval by Council;
- i. establish sub-committees, taskforces, or other groups to carry out any work of the Executive Board, under its delegated authority including but not limited to one or more sub-committees for remuneration, finance and audit and risk;
- j. approve any Major Transactions;
- k. make and amend policies and procedures within its powers and responsibilities including setting remuneration and expenses policies applicable to the President, Vice-Presidents, Executive Board Members, Individual Council Members, Integrity Unit Board members, members of Commissions and Working Groups, the Chief Executive Officer and any related matters as may be decided by the Executive Board;
- l. consider and make recommendations to Council for amendments to the Constitution, Rules and Regulations;
- m. consider and make recommendations to Congress of the Auditors to appoint under Article 27.1(m);
- n. approve the audited annual financial statements;
- o. control expenditure, source income, and prudently invest World Athletics' funds to fulfil the Purposes of World Athletics;
- p. open and operate in the name of World Athletics such bank accounts as are deemed necessary;
- q. engage, contract or otherwise agree to obtain the assistance or advice of any person or organisation;
- r. resolve and determine any disputes or matters not provided for in this Constitution;
- s. commission every other year audits of its anti-doping and integrity programme including the Athletics Integrity Unit in accordance with Article 79.3;

- t. commission audits on a regular basis (at least once every three years) in order to assess and improve the quality of its governance arrangements, monitor ethical compliance, obtain assurance as to World Athletics' internal control framework; and,
- u. subject to this Constitution, exercise all the powers of World Athletics in accordance with its Purposes and do all things that are not expressly required to be undertaken by Congress or Council.

59. Executive Board Meetings and Procedures

59.1 **Meetings:** Meetings of the Executive Board shall occur at such regular intervals as decided by the Executive Board and may also be called at any time by the President or two (2) Executive Board Members. Except to the extent specified in this Constitution, the Executive Board shall regulate its own procedure.

59.2 **Meetings using Technology:** Any one (1) or more Executive Board Members (including the Executive Board as a whole) may participate in any meeting of the Executive Board and vote on any proposed resolution at a meeting of the Executive Board without being physically present. Such meetings may occur by telephone, through video conference facilities or by other means of electronic communication (other than electronic mail (email) communication) provided that prior notice of the meeting is given to all Executive Board Members and all persons participating in the meeting are able to hear each other effectively and simultaneously. Participation by any Executive Board Member in this manner at a meeting shall constitute the presence of that Executive Board Member at that meeting.

59.3 **Quorum:** The quorum for an Executive Board meeting shall be four (4) Executive Board Members.

59.4 **Voting:**

- a. Each Executive Board Member shall have one (1) vote on each resolution.
- b. All resolutions of the Executive Board shall be carried by an Absolute Majority, unless a Special Majority is expressly specified in the Constitution, Rules or Regulations.
- c. In the event of a tie in votes the chairperson of the meeting shall have both a deliberative and a casting vote.
- d. Except for resolutions passed outside of an Executive Board meeting under Article 59.5 (Resolutions), voting at Executive Board meetings shall be by voice, or upon request of any Executive Board Member, by a show of hands or by secret ballot. Proxy voting is not permitted at Executive Board meetings.

59.5 **Resolutions:** A resolution in writing signed or consented to by email, facsimile or other forms of visible or other electronic communication by all of the Executive Board Members under Article 59.3, shall be valid as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Executive Board. Any such resolution may consist of several documents in the same form each signed or consented to by one (1) or more of Executive Board Members.

60. Executive Board Appointments

60.1 **Role:** One of the roles of the Nominations Panel is to identify, recruit, assess and make recommendations to the Executive Board for the appointment of the three (3)

Appointed EB Members of the Executive Board.

60.2 **Responsibilities:** The Nominations Panel shall be responsible for:

- a. identifying the skills, expertise, and experience which may be necessary for the Executive Board taking into account those of the Ex Officio EB Members;
- b. identifying and inviting suitable candidates to apply for appointment as Appointed EB Members;
- c. publicly advertising the vacancies including position descriptions for the Appointed EB Members;
- d. receiving and assessing applications from candidates for appointment as Appointed EB Members, including undertaking such enquiries and holding interviews and meetings as it sees fit;
- e. as soon as practicable and within three (3) months of conclusion of each Election Congress meeting, recommending to the Ex Officio EB Members the applicant(s) whom the Nominations Panel considers best suit the position(s), for consideration and vote by the Ex Officio EB Members; and,
- f. such other related matters as set out in any applicable Rules and Regulations.

60.3 **Relevant Factors:** In recommending persons to be Appointed EB Members, the Nominations Panel shall recommend applicants based on merit and in so doing shall:

- a. from the 2027 Election Congress, ensure that at least three (3) of the total number of Executive Board Members are of each sex; and
- b. take into account the following factors about the applicant and the Executive Board as a whole:
 - i. significant prior experience as a director, trustee, or other governance role;
 - ii. knowledge of, and experience in Athletics;
 - iii. occupational skills, abilities, and experience;
 - iv. knowledge of, and experience in, community, sports or not for profit organisations generally;
 - v. the need to minimise conflicts of interest;
 - vi. the ability to contribute independent and diverse views;
 - vii. the need for a wide range of skills, experiences, backgrounds and geographical spread.

PART VIII – CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

61. Role

61.1 The role of the Chief Executive Officer is to manage the operations of World Athletics, except for the Athletics Integrity Unit which is managed by the Head of the Integrity Unit.

62. Eligibility

62.1 The Chief Executive Officer must be Eligible in accordance with Article 65 (Eligibility).

63. Terms

63.1 The terms and conditions of employment for the Chief Executive Officer shall be decided by the Executive Board.

64. Authority

64.1 The Chief Executive Officer shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of World Athletics (except for the Athletics Integrity Unit) in accordance with the directions of the Executive Board and the President, the Rules, Regulations, policies, and procedures of World Athletics and within such limitations and delegated authority as may be established by the Executive Board.

64.2 The Chief Executive Officer is appointed by, and accountable to, the Executive Board. They receive direction from and are responsible to the Executive Board and the President. If there is any inconsistency between direction of the President and the Executive Board, the matter shall be referred to the Executive Board.

64.3 The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for:

- a. managing the day-to-day operations of World Athletics including managing World Athletics office and the Staff (except for staff in the Integrity Unit);
- b. in consultation with the Executive Board, developing the Strategic Plan for approval by Council, and implementing this plan;
- c. developing an annual plan for approval by the Executive Board, and implementing this plan;
- d. developing and growing the commercial revenues of World Athletics to enable it to fulfil the Strategic Plan and to continue to grow and develop Athletics;
- e. supporting the President in engaging with stakeholders of World Athletics to enable it to deliver on the Strategic Plan and the World Plan for Athletics including Member Federations, Area Associations, sponsors, government authorities and other partners;
- f. ensuring compliance with all applicable laws, rules and regulations including this Constitution, the Rules and Regulations, which, without limitation, include ensuring the preparation of the audited annual financial statements for approval by the Executive Board and the Annual Council Report for approval by Council and the preparation of minutes of Congress, Council and Executive Board meetings;
- g. undertaking all of their responsibilities within the approved budgets, and limits

of authority (set by the Executive Board), and to applicable best practice standards.

64.4 The Chief Executive Officer shall attend all Congress and Council meetings unless otherwise required by Council but shall have no voting rights.

64.5 The Chief Executive Officer is a non-voting member of the Executive Board. They shall attend all meetings of the Executive Board unless otherwise required by the Executive Board.

PART IX – ELIGIBILITY OF WORLD ATHLETICS OFFICIALS AND VETTING PANEL

65. Eligibility

65.1 A person seeking election or applying to be an Official (Applicant), or to remain in office as an Official (Existing-Official), must be Eligible.

65.2 To be Eligible, every Applicant and Existing-Official shall be approved by the Vetting Panel to:

- a. have satisfied the Integrity Check including all applicable disclosure obligations as required and specified in the Rules and Regulations; and,
- b. not be Ineligible.

65.3 The decision to approve that an Applicant and Existing-Official is Eligible or otherwise shall be made by the Vetting Panel, except for prospective or current members of the Vetting Panel, in which case the decision shall be made by Independent persons appointed by Council, in accordance with Article 67.5.

65.4 Without in any way limiting the Vetting Panel's decision to declare an Applicant or Existing Official Ineligible for any other reason, an Applicant or Existing Official will be Ineligible if:

- a. **Other Position:** the person is a member of Staff;
- b. **Bankrupt:** the person is declared by a Relevant Authority to be an undischarged bankrupt or is subject to a condition not yet fulfilled or any order under insolvency laws;
- c. **Conviction:** the person has been convicted by a Relevant Authority of any offence punishable by a term of imprisonment of two (2) or more years (whether or not a term of imprisonment is imposed) unless that person has obtained a pardon or has served the sentence imposed on them;
- d. **Disqualified Director:** the person is prohibited by a Relevant Authority from being a director or promoter of or being concerned or taking part in the management of a company for breach or non-compliance with any law applicable to that person;
- e. **Property Order:** the person is subject to an order by a Relevant Authority that the person is lacking in competence to manage their own affairs;
- f. **Majority:** the person is a minor by law;
- g. **Full Civil Rights:** the person is deprived of their civil rights by proper application of the law;
- h. **Breach of Integrity Code of Conduct:** the person is serving a period of ineligibility (including provisional suspension) for breach of the Integrity Code of Conduct or for breach of the Former Code of Ethics;
- i. **Safeguarding:** the person is found by a Relevant Authority to have done something or omitted to have done something which would be regarded as a safeguarding concern under the Safeguarding Rules and is serving a ban or any other restriction on their ability to participate or operate in athletics, or is subject to a safeguarding order under the Safeguarding Rules as a result;

- j. **Anti-Doping Rule Violation:** the person is found by a Relevant Authority to have committed an anti-doping rule violation at any time, including any person who has served any period of ineligibility for that violation;
- k. **Removal:** the person was removed from office by Congress, Council or the Executive Board in accordance with this Constitution, the Rules or Regulations or under Previous Constitutions;
- l. **Other:** the person is otherwise prohibited from holding such position, or any similar position, under any other circumstances as provided by law.

65.5 **Cessation of Office:** If the Vetting Panel decides, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, that an Applicant or Existing Official has not satisfied an Integrity Check or that any of the circumstances listed in Article 65.4 (Ineligibility) apply to that person, the Vetting Panel or Independent persons in Article 67.5, as the case may be, shall declare the person Ineligible. A declaration to that effect will have immediate effect.

65.6 Article 65.5 does not limit or waive the right to suspend or remove an Official as specified in this Constitution.

66. Role of Vetting Panel

66.1 The role of the Vetting Panel is to decide if an Applicant or Existing Official is Eligible to be, or remain in office as, an Official in accordance with the Constitution, the Rules and Regulations.

67. Composition and Term of Vetting Panel

67.1 The Vetting Panel shall be comprised of three (3) persons who are Independent with experience in vetting or screening applicants and candidates for appointments to official positions. Each member of the Vetting Panel shall be approved by Congress on the recommendation of Council at a Congress meeting.

67.2 The term of office for members of the Vetting Panel shall be up to four (4) years commencing at the conclusion of the Congress meeting at which their appointment is effective.

67.3 Members of the Vetting Panel may, subject to re-appointment by Congress, serve a maximum of two (2) terms of up to four (4) years except that any member of the Vetting Panel appointed in or prior to 2019 may serve for one additional term of up to four (4) years.

67.4 Members of the Vetting Panel must be Eligible in accordance with Article 65 (Eligibility).

67.5 The decision whether a prospective member or current member of the Vetting Panel is Eligible shall be undertaken by a panel comprising at least two (2) people appointed by Council who are Independent. This independent panel shall have the same duties, powers, responsibilities and procedures as the Vetting Panel with respect to prospective and current members of the Vetting Panel. Every reference to the Vetting Panel throughout this Constitution (other than Articles 27.1(h) and 47.2(p)) shall mean this independent panel, unless stated otherwise.

68. Duties, Powers, Responsibilities and Procedures

68.1 The Vetting Panel shall have such duties, powers, responsibilities and procedures as set out in the Rules and Regulations which shall include reporting to Congress

annually under Article 27.1(k).

69. Decisions of Vetting Panel

69.1 The decisions of the Vetting Panel, or the independent panel in Article 67.5, as the case may be, shall be final, subject to a right of appeal in accordance with the Vetting Rules.

PART X – ATHLETICS INTEGRITY UNIT

70. Establishment

70.1 There shall be an Athletics Integrity Unit established and maintained by World Athletics.

71. Role

71.1 The role of the Athletics Integrity Unit is to protect the integrity of Athletics. It will do this through education and testing, and by investigating and prosecuting anti-doping rule violations and other breaches of integrity within the Rules and Regulations (including the Integrity Code of Conduct and Rules based on the World Anti-Doping Code).

72. Independence

72.1 The Athletics Integrity Unit shall be part of, but operate independently from, World Athletics, in accordance with Rules and Regulations, except to the extent that:

- a. Council will make and amend all the Rules and Regulations applicable to the Athletics Integrity Unit;
- b. the Executive Board will allocate funding to the Athletics Integrity Unit to enable it to undertake its functions and fulfil its responsibilities;
- c. personnel working in the Athletics Integrity Unit will be employed or engaged by World Athletics;
- d. Council will elect a Council Member to be a non-voting member of the Integrity Unit Board in accordance with the Rules;
- e. the Integrity Unit Board will report to the Executive Board and to the Council regularly and shall report to the Congress annually under Article 27.1(k).

73. Integrity Unit Board

73.1 **Role:** The Integrity Unit will be governed by an Integrity Unit Board in accordance with the Rules and Regulations.

73.2 **Composition:** The Integrity Unit Board shall be comprised of:

- a. Five members who are Independent, appointed by Congress on the recommendation of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel under Article 74.5(e) who each have governance experience and between them have significant skills and experience in anti-doping, other integrity matters and the law. The chairperson shall be one of the five (5) Independent members (together referred to as Independent Members of the Integrity Unit Board), and
- b. a Council Member appointed by Council under Article 47.2(s), who shall be non-voting; and,
- c. the Head of the Integrity Unit, who shall also be non-voting.

73.3 **Eligibility:** Members of the Integrity Unit Board must be Eligible in accordance with Article 65 (Eligibility).

73.4 **Duties, Powers, Responsibilities and Procedures:** The Integrity Unit Board shall have such duties, powers, responsibilities and procedures as are set out in the Rules and Regulations which shall include reporting to the Executive Board and the Council regularly and reporting to the Congress annually under Article 27.1(k).

73.5 **Term of Office:** The term of office for members of the Integrity Unit Board will be up to four years commencing from the first Council meeting held after each Election Congress meeting.

73.6 The maximum number of terms of office for any member of the Integrity Unit Board shall be three four (4) year terms except for:

- a. the Council Member appointed by Council under Article 47.2(s) whose maximum term shall be the same duration as their term of office on Council;
- b. the Head of the Integrity Unit;
- c. a person who is appointed as an Independent Member of the Integrity Unit Board (including the chairperson) who served on the Integrity Board prior to 2023 may serve an additional term of up to four (4) years on the Integrity Unit Board.

74. Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel

74.1 **Role:** The role of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel is to identify, recruit, assess and make recommendations to Congress of the Independent Members of the Integrity Unit Board, (including the chairperson of the Integrity Unit Board), to be appointed to the Integrity Unit Board.

74.2 **Composition:** The Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel shall comprise the following people:

- a. the chairperson of the Integrity Unit Board
- ;
- b. one (1) person, appointed by Council under Article 47.2(u) on the recommendation of the Executive Board, who is Independent and is experienced in governance and the functions and appointment processes of directors and to act as chairperson of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel; and,
- c. one (1) Council Member, elected by Council under Article 47.2(u).

74.3 Where the chairperson of the Integrity Unit Board seeks appointment to any position on the Integrity Unit Board then, for the purposes of deliberation by the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel, the process for managing their recusal concerning consideration of their reappointment as chairperson of the Integrity Unit Board or concerning consideration of their appointment to any other position on the Integrity Unit Board, their involvement in the identification, recruitment, assessment stages of the appointments process shall be prescribed in the Athletics Integrity Unit Rules.

74.4 **Eligibility:** Members of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel must be Eligible in accordance with Article 65 (Eligibility).

74.5 **Term of Office:**

- a. Council shall appoint the two (2) members of the Integrity Unit Board

Appointments Panel specified in Articles 74.2(b) and 74.2(c) at the first Council meeting held following each Election Congress meeting.

- b. Once appointed, the members of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel shall remain in office until the first Council meeting held following the next Election Congress meeting.
- c. Members of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel may be reappointed for further terms without limitation.

74.6 **Responsibilities:** The Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel shall be independent of the Integrity Unit Board and shall be responsible for:

- a. identifying the skills, expertise, and experience which may be necessary for the Integrity Unit Board;
- b. identifying and inviting suitable candidates to apply to be an Independent Member of the Integrity Unit Board;
- c. publicly advertising the vacancies including position descriptions for Independent Members of the Integrity Unit Board;
- d. receiving and assessing applications from candidates for appointment of Independent Members of the Integrity Unit Board including undertaking such enquiries and holding interviews and meetings as it sees fit;
- e. recommending to Congress for its approval the applicants(s) whom the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel considers best suit the position(s), and their proposed terms of office, for consideration and approval by the Delegates at the Election Congress meeting. Such recommendations to be included with the agenda for that Election Congress meeting; and,
- f. such other related matters as set out in the Rules and Regulations.

74.7 **Procedures:** The procedures of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel shall be set out in the Rules and Regulations.

PART XI – DISCIPLINE

75. Integrity Code of Conduct

75.1 Council shall issue, and may amend, an Integrity Code of Conduct, incorporating any Rules and Regulations, which sets out the standards of conduct required for:

- a. Officials or persons seeking to become Officials;
- b. Area Officials or Member Federation Officials (limited, to their relations or dealings with World Athletics as specifically prescribed in the Integrity Code of Conduct), unless otherwise specifically provided in Rules incorporated into the Integrity Code of Conduct in accordance with Article 75.1(i);
- c. International-Level Athletes;
- d. Athlete Support Personnel;
- e. Persons and entities bidding to host or hosting International Competitions;
- f. Persons who are engaged by or are acting on behalf of World Athletics;
- g. Persons and entities who are participating in or accredited at an International Competition, including but not limited to Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel;
- h. Persons participating in or accredited at a meeting of Congress;
- i. Notwithstanding any other part of this Article, such persons who agree in writing to be bound by the Integrity Code of Conduct or who are bound to the Integrity Code of Conduct by virtue of World Athletics Rules applying to them, which rules are incorporated into the Code.

76. Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal

76.1 A Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal shall be established and maintained by World Athletics to hear and decide all breaches of the Integrity Code of Conduct in accordance with the Rules and Regulations and such other matters as set out in this Constitution or the Rules and Regulations.

76.2 The members of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal must be Independent. The Disciplinary Appeals Tribunal shall operate independently of World Athletics in accordance with the Constitution, Rules and Regulations, except to the extent that:

- a. Council shall make and amend all the Rules and Regulations applicable to the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal;
- b. the Executive Board shall allocate funding to the Athletics Integrity Unit to enable the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal to undertake its functions and fulfil its responsibilities;
- c. the secretariat of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal shall be approved by the Executive Board on the recommendation of the Integrity Unit Board;
- d. the members of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal shall be approved by Congress, on the recommendation of Council;

- e. Council may appoint members to the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal to fill positions on the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal which are vacant where such vacancy has resulted in the total number of Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal members being less than six (6);
- f. the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal shall report to Congress annually under Article 27.1(k).

76.3 Decisions of the Disciplinary Panel of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal may only be appealed exclusively to CAS (Appeal Arbitration Division) unless otherwise provided in the Rules. There shall be no right of appeal from decisions of the Appeal Panel of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal and decisions of the Appeal Panel shall be final and binding on all parties.

PART XII – ADMINISTRATIVE

77. Official Languages

- 77.1 The official languages of World Athletics shall be English and French.
- 77.2 The Constitution, Rules and Regulations, minutes, reports and other communications from World Athletics shall be in English and French and in any other language as the Chief Executive Officer decides.
- 77.3 In the event of any difference in interpretation of any text, the English version shall apply.
- 77.4 All documents or communications to World Athletics shall be in English or French.

78. Financial Year

- 78.1 The financial year of World Athletics shall be decided by the Executive Board.

79. Annual Council Report

- 79.1 Council shall prepare an Annual Council Report which contains:
 - a. the audited annual financial statements as approved by the Executive Board pursuant to Article 58.2 (n);
 - b. an annual report of the preceding financial year's activities which shall include;
 - i. a report from the President;
 - ii. a report from the Executive Board;
 - iii. a report from Council;
 - iv. a report from the Auditor;
 - v. disclosure of any remuneration paid under Article 58.2; and,
 - vi. such other reports and information as Council decides are in the interests of ensuring appropriate transparency and accountability of World Athletics to Congress.
- 79.2 The annual financial statements in Article 79.1(a) shall be audited annually by an independent auditor appointed by Congress under Article 27.1(m). The auditor shall be a practising chartered accountant.
- 79.3 The Executive Board shall commission an audit every other year to ensure compliance by World Athletics with its anti-doping and integrity programme including the Athletics Integrity Unit as set out in this Constitution and the Rules and Regulations. In addition, the Executive Board shall commission audits on a regular basis (at least once every three years) in order to assess and improve the quality of its governance arrangements, monitor ethical compliance, and obtain assurance as to World Athletics' internal control framework.
- 79.4 The Annual Council Report shall be:
 - a. presented to each Ordinary Congress meeting including audited annual financial statements and Auditor's report for the preceding financial year;

- b. circulated to Member Federations and Area Associations in the Calendar Year between Ordinary meetings of Congress; and,
- c. publicly available on the World Athletics website.

80. Transparency Standards

80.1 On the recommendation of the Executive Board, Council shall make Rules providing for standards and the manner in which information about decision-making within World Athletics is shared with Area Associations, Member Federations, the public and with stakeholders. In doing so, it will seek to achieve the greatest degree of transparency while protecting the interests of World Athletics and the rights of individuals who contribute to it.

81. Application of Income

81.1 The income and property of World Athletics shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the Purposes.

82. Amendments to the Constitution

82.1 Subject to Article 82.2, this Constitution may be amended, added to or repealed only by Special Majority of Congress.

82.2 Notice of an intention to amend this Constitution shall be given by a Member Federation or the Council to the Chief Executive Officer no later than:

- a. Six (6) months prior to an Ordinary Congress Meeting, in accordance with Article 30 (Notice of Ordinary Congress Meeting); or
- b. the same date on which the request is made to call a Special Congress, in accordance with Article 32.3 (Notice of Special Congress Meeting).

82.3 Amendments to this Constitution may be made by the Chief Executive Officer for typographical or clerical errors or for reasons of grammar or clarification, where those amendments arise from resolutions of Congress to amend the Constitution, provided there is no material change to the intent of the decisions of Congress.

83. Dissolution

83.1 World Athletics may be voluntarily dissolved only at a Special Congress meeting convened for that purpose and approved by Special Majority.

83.2 In the event of a dissolution, Congress shall appoint one (1) or more liquidators who shall discharge all debts and liabilities incurred on behalf of World Athletics. The remaining assets, if any, shall be donated to a body for the ongoing promotion and development of Athletics. No Member Federation can be allocated or receive any part of the property of World Athletics, other than repayment or restitution of any property or funds paid to or provided by the Member Federation to World Athletics (excluding Membership Fees or other payments owed to World Athletics such as fines, penalties or other sanctions).

83.3 At the completion of the liquidation, the liquidators shall submit a final report to Congress which shall declare the liquidation closed.

84. Disputes and Appeals

84.1 In the event there is a dispute or difference between:

- a. Member Federations; or
- b. Member Federation(s) and an Area Association; or
- c. Area Associations; or
- d. Member Federation(s) and World Athletics; or
- e. An Area Association and World Athletics;

and it is not otherwise provided for in this Constitution or the Rules or the Regulations, Council may take reasonable steps to assist in the resolution of such dispute or difference (which may include appointing a mediator).

84.2 In the event there is a dispute or difference between:

- a. a Member Federation or Member Federations and World Athletics; or
- b. an Area Association or Area Associations and World Athletics;

that cannot be resolved as set out in Article 84.1, the matter will be submitted to arbitration before the CAS (Ordinary Arbitration Division), to the exclusion of any other court or forum, in accordance with Article 84.3, below. The CAS will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the CAS Code of Sports-related Arbitration.

84.3 Any dispute submitted to the CAS under Article 84.2 must be filed either within five (5) days of the date of the dispute first arising or within five (5) days of any failure to resolve the dispute in accordance with Article 84.1 (whichever the case may be).

84.4 Pending resolution of the appeal by the CAS, the decision being appealed shall remain in full force and effect unless the CAS orders otherwise.

84.5 An appeal before the CAS shall be governed by this Constitution and the Rules and Regulations, and on a subsidiary basis by Monegasque law. The appeal proceedings shall be conducted in English unless the parties agree otherwise.

84.6 A decision of the CAS on appeal may not be challenged in any other court or forum or on any ground except as set out in Chapter 12 of Switzerland's Federal Act on Private International Law.

85. Notifications

85.1 In accordance with Article 10 of Monegasque Law 1355 of 23 December 2008, the President (or his nominee from the Executive Board) shall within one month, declare to the Minister of State, who will acknowledge:

- a. any change of name, object or address of the registered office of World Athletics;
- b. any change in the composition of the Council or the functions of its members;
- c. any acquisition or disposal of premises and property including a description of the acquisition and amount of purchase or disposal price attached to such declaration;

- d. any amendment to the Constitution, other than those referred to in Article 85.1(a);
- e. any decision of Congress to voluntarily dissolve World Athletics.

85.2 In accordance with Article 11 of Monegasque Law 1355 of 23 December 2008, the President (or his nominee from the Executive Board) shall, within one month of the declaration in Article 85.1, publish in the Journal de Monaco a notice stating:

- a. any change of name, object or address of the registered office of World Athletics;
- b. any decision to voluntarily dissolve World Athletics.

85.3 In accordance with Article 12 of Monegasque Law 1355 of 23 December 2008, any amendments to the Constitution or changes in the administration of World Athletics must be recorded in a register held at the registered office of World Athletics, including the dates on which such changes were made. The register shall contain all the necessary information relating to the civil status and the addresses of the members of Council. The register must be presented, on request, to the administrative or judicial authorities of the Principality of Monaco.

PART XIII – DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

86. Specific Definitions

86.1 The words, terms and phrases used in this Constitution shall have the following meaning:

“Absolute Majority” means a resolution passed by over 50% of the valid votes cast by those present and entitled to vote.

“Annual Council Report” means the annual report from Council to the Member Federations and Area Associations as described in Article 79.

“Anti-Doping Rules” means the Anti-Doping Rules approved by the Council from time to time.

“Appointed EB Members” means the appointed members of the Executive Board appointed under Article 60.

“Area Association” means the association of Member Federations and other members in an Area established and operating in accordance with this Constitution and the Rules.

“Area Championships” means the championships competition between athletes in an Area from Member Federations and other members of an Area Association.

“Area Council” means the executive body of the Area Association.

“Area Competition” means an Athletics competition organised by or on behalf of an Area Association and includes Area Championships.

“Area Meeting” means a meeting held by the Area Associations annually or biennially at which representatives of each Member Federation in the Area attend and vote, as specified in the Area Association’s constitution.

“Area Officials” means any person who is elected or appointed to a position in which they represent an Area Association, including, but not limited to Area Presidents and members of Area Councils.

“Area President” means the person elected at an Area Meeting as its President.

“Areas” means the geographical areas described in the Annexure to this Constitution.

“Article” means an article of this Constitution.

“Athlete Support Personnel” means, for the purposes of Article 75, any coach, trainer, Athletes’ Representative as defined in the Rules and Regulations, manager, agent, selector, team staff, official, medical or para-medical personnel, physiotherapist, parent or other person who is working with, treating or assisting an International-Level Athlete, is employed by or represents a Member Federation or is affiliated to a national team or squad.

“Athletes’ Commission” means the Commission established under the Rules to provide advice to Council on matters affecting World Athletics and Athletics from an athlete’s perspective

“Athletics” means the sport of Athletics as defined in the Rules and Regulations including track and field, road running, race walking, cross country running, mountain running, and trail running.

“Athletics Integrity Unit” means the unit described in Part X of this Constitution.

“Attendees” means the persons who shall attend meetings of Congress as specified in Article 29.1.

“Auditor” means the person or firm or company appointed by Congress to undertake an independent audit, as described in Article 79.2.

“Calendar Year” means the period from 1 January to 31 December each year.

“Court of Arbitration for Sport or ‘CAS’” means the independent arbitration body seated in Lausanne, Switzerland.

“Chief Executive Officer” means the Chief Executive Officer of World Athletics as described in Part VIII of the Constitution.

“Citizen” means the person has legal citizenship of a Country, or in the case of a Territory, legal citizenship of the Territory’s parent Country and appropriate legal status in the Territory under the applicable laws.

“Commission” means a group of people appointed by Council, whether on an ad hoc or standing basis, to provide expertise and advice to Council, and which are established and function in accordance with the Rules and includes the Athletes’ Commission.

“Congress” means the body comprising the Delegates of Member Federations.

“Constitution” means, unless stated otherwise, this constitution including any amendments made to it from time to time.

“Convention” means the biennial gathering of persons invited to participate in meetings and forums as described in Article 39.

“Council” means the body described in Part V of this Constitution.

“Council Member” means any member of Council including the President, Vice-Presidents, Area Presidents, Individual Council Members, and the chairperson and deputy chairperson of the Athletes’ Commission (whether an ex officio member or otherwise).

“Country” means a self-governing geographical area of the world recognised as an independent state by international law and international governmental bodies.

“Delegate” means a person appointed under Article 28 to represent a Member Federation at Congress.

“Development Programme” means a programme of World Athletics in which financial and other support is provided to Member Federations to support the development of Athletics worldwide in accordance with the Purposes.

“Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal” means the judicial body established to hear and decide all breaches of the Integrity Code of Conduct in accordance with the Rules

and Regulations and such other matters as set out in the Constitution, Rules or Regulations.

“Due Date” means the date on which Membership Fees or other fees or payments are due by a Member Federation to World Athletics as decided by Council.

“Election Congress” means the Ordinary Congress meeting held every four (4) Calendar Years, at which elections under Article 36 of this Constitution are undertaken.

“Electronic Voting” means voting on a resolution by electronic communication.

“Eligible” has the meaning given to it in Article 65.2 and the term “Eligibility” shall be interpreted and construed accordingly.

“Ex Officio EB Members” means the President and the Vice-Presidents.

“Executive Board” means the body described in Part VII of this Constitution.

“Executive Board Members” means the members of the Executive Board elected and appointed under Article 57.

“Financially Solvent” means the entity is able to pay its debts when due.

“Head of the Integrity Unit” means the person appointed by the Integrity Unit Board who is responsible for managing the operations of the Integrity Unit.

“Honorary Life Personal Member” means a person elected as an Honorary Life Personal Member who has provided significant service to World Athletics, and who is elected by Congress, in accordance with this Constitution and the Rules, and includes any person elected to such position under any Previous Constitutions. For the avoidance of doubt, an Honorary Life Personal Member is not a Member of World Athletics.

“Honorary Life President” means a person elected as an Honorary Life President, who was a former President of World Athletics and is elected by Congress, in accordance with this Constitution and the Rules, and includes any person elected to such position under any Previous Constitutions.

“Honorary Life Vice-President” means a person elected as an Honorary Life Vice-President, who was a former Vice-President or Council Member of World Athletics and is elected by Congress, in accordance with this Constitution and the Rules, and includes any person elected to such position under any Previous Constitutions.

“Independent” when referring to a person seeking to become, or who is a member of, an independent body, means the person does not, or has not for a period of two (2) years prior to appointment, held any position or role nor had any contract, agreement or engagement (whether directly or through a third party), with World Athletics, except where the person is seeking to, or has, renewed their term of office or appointment on the same independent body (or a predecessor of that body).

“Independent Members of the Integrity Unit Board” means those members of the Integrity Unit Board described in Article 73.2(a).

“Ineligible” has the meaning given to it in Article 65.4 and the term “Ineligibility” shall be interpreted and construed accordingly.

“Individual Council Members” means the Council Members who are elected in accordance with Article 36.6.

“Individual Council Member Number of Each Sex” means and is calculated by subtracting the Initial Numbers of Each Sex declared to Congress in accordance with Article 36.6 (b) from the Minimum Number of Each Sex.

“Initial Numbers of Each Sex” means the total number of each sex from amongst the following thirteen (13) positions on Council:

- i. the President and Vice-Presidents elected under Articles 36.4 and 36.5 (i.e. a total of five (5) positions);
- ii. the current Area Presidents in accordance with Articles 18.2 (b) and 41.1(c) (i.e. a total of six (6) positions); and,
- iii. the Athletes’ Commission members on Council elected under Article 41.1(d) (i.e. a total of two (2) positions).

“Integrity Check” means the assessments undertaken by the Vetting Panel in accordance with Part IX of the Constitution and the Rules and Regulations, to decide whether a person is Eligible.

“Integrity Code of Conduct” means the code of conduct described in Article 75 and as amended from time to time.

“Integrity Unit Board” means the body described in Article 73.

“Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel” means the panel described in Article 74.

“Intellectual Property” means all rights and goodwill in copyright works, names, trademarks, service marks, devices, logos, designs, patents, processes and confidential information relating to World Athletics or to any event, competition activity or programme conducted, promoted or administered by or on behalf of World Athletics.

“International Competition” means competitions in the World Athletics Series (as described in the Rules), the Athletics programme of the Olympic Games and other competitions organised by or on behalf of World Athletics or as specified in the Rules and Regulations.

“International-Level Athlete” means the athletes defined as an International-Level Athlete in the Anti-Doping Rules.

“IOC” means the International Olympic Committee, which is the international non-governmental and non-profit organisation responsible for the Olympic movement, including the Olympic Games, under the Olympic Charter.

“Major Transactions” means transactions involving a significant amount of the assets of World Athletics, or incurring significant liabilities on World Athletics, as defined in the Rules and Regulations.

“Member Federation Country” means the Country or Territory in which a Member Federation has authority, as stated in its constitution (as approved by World Athletics), to be the national governing body for the sport of Athletics.

“Member Federation Official” means any person who is elected or appointed to a position in which they represent a Member Federation, including, but not limited to the president, vice-president, members of the executive body, general secretary and Delegates.

“Members” means the members of World Athletics as described in Article 6, also known as Member Federations, and as listed in the Annexure, as updated from time to time and **“Membership”** means being a Member of World Athletics.

“Membership Fee” means the annual membership fee payable by each Member Federation to World Athletics as described in Article 10.

“Minimum Number of Each Sex” means, starting from the 2027 Election Congress and thereafter, the minimum number of Council Members of each sex on Council is thirteen (13) of the male sex and thirteen (13) of the female sex.

“Nominations Panel” means the panel defined and appointed pursuant to the Governance Rules.

“Observers” means the persons who are entitled to attend meetings of Congress as observers as specified in Article 29.

“Official” means any person who is elected or appointed to a position in which they represent World Athletics (whether as an Independent or otherwise), including, but not limited to Council Members, Executive Board Members, members of the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal, members of the Integrity Unit Board, members of the Integrity Unit Board Appointments Panel, the Nominations Panel, members of the Vetting Panel, members of Commissions and Working Groups, members of any other bodies or panels established by World Athletics, and consultants and advisors to World Athletics, unless specifically provided otherwise in this Constitution.

“Ordinary Congress” means the meeting of Congress which is held every second Calendar Year and includes an Election Congress meeting.

“President” means the President of World Athletics as described in Part VI of the Constitution.

“Previous Constitution” means all previous constitutions of World Athletics as amended from time to time.

“Previous Council” means the body known as “Council” under the Previous Constitution, and includes members of the Council and the Executive Board under the Previous Constitution (Previous Council Members).

“Purposes” means the purposes of World Athletics described in Article 4.

“Regulations” means all regulations approved from time to time by Council within its powers and responsibilities, which shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution and the Rules

“Relevant Authority” means a disciplinary body, tribunal, court or other judicial or arbitral body properly constituted by law, or the Rules, and acting in accordance with the law applicable to its jurisdiction, and may include, but is not limited to, the Disciplinary and Appeals Tribunal.

“Rules” means all rules approved from time to time by Council within its powers and responsibilities, including the Integrity Code of Conduct, which shall not be inconsistent with the Constitution. A reference to “a” Rule (singular) means the Rule in which the reference to the Rule is made, unless stated otherwise.

“Rules of Congress” means the Rules which set out the procedures for meetings of Congress. To the extent of any inconsistency between the Rules of Congress and this Constitution, this Constitution will prevail.

“Senior Vice-President” means the person described in Article 55.5.

“Special Congress” means a meeting of Congress held in accordance with Article 32.

“Special Majority” means a resolution passed by at least two-thirds (2/3 rds) of the valid votes cast by those present and entitled to vote.

“Staff” means any person employed or engaged by World Athletics to undertake work for it, or on its behalf (including those employed or engaged to work with the Integrity Unit, unless specified otherwise).

“Strategic Plan” means the strategy and plan for the direction of World Athletics over a specified period of time as decided by Council.

“Territory” means a geographical area of the world, which is not a Country, but which has aspects of self-government, at least to the extent of being autonomous in the control of its sport, and which is recognised as such by World Athletics.

“Vetting Panel” means the panel described in Part IX of the Constitution.

“Vice-Presidents” means the Vice-Presidents of World Athletics as described in Article 55 of the Constitution, and, unless specified otherwise, includes the Senior Vice-President.

“World Anti-Doping Agency or ‘WADA’” means the body founded by the IOC and constituted as a foundation in Lausanne by an instrument of foundation signed on 10 November 1999 and named in that instrument as the *Agence Mondiale Antidopage*, World Anti-Doping Agency.

“Working Groups” means groups appointed by Council to undertake a specific task or project which are not Commissions.

“World Anti-Doping Code” means the World Anti-Doping Code adopted by WADA on 5 March 2003 as amended from time to time.

“World Plan for Athletics” means the direction and plan for the development of the sport of Athletics throughout the world.

87. Interpretation

87.1 In this Constitution:

- a. the singular includes the plural and vice-versa;
- b. any reference to legislation includes a modification or re-enactment of legislation enacted in substitution of, or a regulation, order-in-council or other

instrument from time to time issued or made under that legislation;

- c. any agreement includes that agreement as modified, supplemented, novated or substituted from time to time;
- d. a reference to a “day” means any day of the week and is not limited to working days, unless specified otherwise;
- e. a reference to a person means any natural person, bodies corporate, organisation or other entity and includes the legal personal representatives, successors and permitted assigns of that person; and,
- f. headings and the contents page are for reference only and are to be ignored in construing this Constitution.

87.2 Notifications

- a. Any notification to be given under this Constitution by a person (“Notifying Party”) will be sufficiently given to the party to whom the notice is required to be sent (“Receiving Party”) if it is given in writing and signed or authorised by an authorised person of the Notifying Party and delivered by one of the following means to the Receiving Party:
 - i. by post to the last known address of the Receiving Party;
 - ii. by personal delivery, including by courier, to the published physical address of the Receiving Party;
 - iii. by electronic mail, to the published address of the Receiving Party;
 - iv. by facsimile to the published address of the Receiving Party.
- b. The time limits stated in this Constitution shall begin on the day on which the notification by the Notifying Party is sent. Official holidays and non-working days are included in the calculation of time limits. A time limit will be complied with if the notification is received before midnight Central European Standard Time on the last day of the specified time limit.

APPENDIX

LIST OF MEMBER FEDERATIONS AND AREAS

AFRICA		
Member Federations (54)		
Algeria	Eswatini	Namibia
Angola	Ethiopia	Niger
Benin	Gabon	Nigeria
Botswana	Gambia (Republic of The)	Rwanda
Burkina Faso	Ghana	Sao Tome and Principe
Burundi	Guinea	Senegal
Cabo Verde	Guinea-Bissau	Seychelles
Cameroon	Kenya	Sierra Leone
Central African Republic	Lesotho	Somalia
Chad	Liberia	South Africa
Comoros	Libya	South Sudan
Congo	Madagascar	Sudan
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Malawi	Tanzania
Côte d'Ivoire	Mali	Togo

Djibouti	Mauritania	Tunisia
Egypt	Mauritius	Uganda
Equatorial Guinea	Morocco	Zambia
Eritrea	Mozambique	Zimbabwe

ASIA		
Member Federations (45)		
Afghanistan	Republic of Korea	Philippines
Bahrain	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Qatar
Bangladesh	Kuwait	Saudi Arabia
Bhutan	Kyrgyzstan	Singapore
Brunei Darussalam	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Sri Lanka
Cambodia	Lebanon	Syrian Arab Republic
China (People's Republic of)	Macao, China	Chinese Taipei
Hong Kong, China	Malaysia	Tajikistan
India	Maldives	Thailand
Indonesia	Mongolia	Timor-Leste
Iran	Myanmar	Turkmenistan

Iraq	Nepal	United Arab Emirates
Japan	Oman	Uzbekistan
Jordan	Pakistan	Viet Nam
Kazakhstan	Palestine	Yemen

EUROPE

Member Federations (51)

Albania	Germany	Montenegro
Andorra	Gibraltar	Netherlands
Armenia	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	North Macedonia
Austria	Greece	Norway
Azerbaijan	Hungary	Poland
Belarus	Iceland	Portugal
Belgium	Ireland	Romania
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Israel	Russian Federation
Bulgaria	Italy	San Marino
Croatia	Kosovo	Serbia

Cyprus	Latvia	Slovakia
Czechia	Liechtenstein	Slovenia
Denmark	Lithuania	Spain
Estonia	Luxembourg	Sweden
Finland	Malta	Switzerland
France	Republic of Moldova	Türkiye
Georgia	Monaco	Ukraine

NORTH AMERICA, CENTRAL AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

Member Federations (31)

Anguilla	Cuba	Puerto Rico
Antigua and Barbuda	Dominica	El Salvador
Aruba	Dominican Republic	Saint Kitts and Nevis
Bahamas, The	Grenada	Saint Lucia
Barbados	Guatemala	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Belize	Haiti	Trinidad and Tobago
Bermuda	Honduras	Turks and Caicos Islands
British Virgin Islands	Jamaica	United States of America

Canada	Mexico	Virgin Islands (US)
Cayman Islands	Montserrat	
Costa Rica	Nicaragua	

OCEANIA**Member Federations (20)**

American Samoa	Marshall Islands	Papua New Guinea
Australia	Micronesia (Federated States of)	Samoa
Cook Islands	Nauru	Solomon Islands
Fiji	New Zealand	Tonga
French Polynesia	Norfolk Island	Tuvalu
Guam	Northern Mariana Islands	Vanuatu
Kiribati	Palau	

SOUTH AMERICA**Member Federations (13)**

Argentina	Ecuador	Suriname
Bolivia, Plurinational State of	Guyana	Uruguay
Brazil	Panama	Venezuela

Chile	Paraguay	
Colombia	Peru	