

**Global Asthma Association -Interasma**  
**Registered at Bilbao Spain, on 20/09/2004 No : AS/B/1354/2004**  
**Registered Office: 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, 2 London Wall Place, London EC2Y 5AU.**  
**c/o mha Macintyre Hudson / Bakertilly**

**STATUTES**

**Article 1 : Form-Duration- Name-Registered office**

- a) By private deed, the International Association of Asthmology - Interasma, was founded in Milan Italy on December 9, 1954 and has been renewed on September 20, 2014 in Bilbao Spain as a non profit making Association with unlimited duration, between the persons who shall adhere to these statutes and satisfy the conditions set out here below.
- b) Name: The Association is called Global Asthma Association- Interasma, in abbreviation (GAA-1)
- c) Registered office: The official domicile shall be located at New Bridge Street House, 30-34 New Bridge Street, London EC4V 6BJ, UK and the offices of the Association Management Company and core Professional Congress Organizer Frei S.A, 3 Paparrigopoulou str., 10561 Athens Greece, or any other location that the General Assembly may determine.

**Article 2 : Purpose and Means**

The GAA-1 has been formed to promote translation and sound application of knowledge, to advance the prevention, diagnosis and management of Asthma & Related Diseases(COPD, Allergy, Immunology)and to improve the scientific understanding to their etiology, pathological mechanisms, pathophysiology research, therapy, epidemiology, rehabilitation.

The GAA-1 takes responsibility for education and training of medical doctors and other professionals involved with research prevention, diagnosis and management of bronchial diseases & Asthma (in its member countries) and the development of standards for its members for their training, continuous education and professional conduct and research translated in every day practice.

GAA-1 promotes education, training and development of standards throughout the world.

GAA-1 offers advise to the public, health authorities and administration on prevention, diagnosis and management of Asthma and related diseases as well as on research programs to improve knowledge in these fields.

The mission of GAA-1 in few words may be stated as "Reduce the burden of Asthma & Related Diseases around the world"

To these ends GAA-1 brings together

-Researchers from various research centers, National Societies of Lung diseases such as Thoracic Societies, Allergy Societies, Pediatric Societies, Immunologists and other professionals including but not limited to Physicians, scientists, nurses, allied health professionals in the field of respiratory diseases, other Associations, councils and working groups

The GAA-1 may take interest in or create National Centers( or Associations), trade or non trade companies, profit or non profit Associations that enable GAA-1 to grow and build up the necessary assets.

GAA-1 may undertake the scientific organization of any congress, symposium, meeting or similar event, bringing together professionals including but not limited to physicians, scientists, nurses, allied health professionals in the field of respiratory diseases, industrialists, anywhere in the world.

GAA-1 may organize the collection, analysis, processing and communication of medical and scientific information, obtained from a wide range of physicians, scientists or institutions of Asthma research and practice in all diseases involved.

GAA-1 may collect, edit and publish journals, articles or information either in printed or electronic form on any medical or scientific value related to respiratory diseases.

GAA-1 may award scholarships, grants of education, research and training in the areas of its interest.

GAA-1 is open without discrimination to all persons in the various fields of medicine who might be interested in the bronchial diseases.

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The official language of GAA-1 is English

### **Article 3: Bodies of GAA-1**

3.1 National Societies can be created by GAA-1 from medical scientists and doctors belonging to the fields of Respiratory, Allergy, Immunology and Pediatrics.

Any existing thoracic, allergy and immunology body as well as related patient societies may join the GAA-1.

NATIONAL GAA-1 CENTERS (or Associations) in abbreviation NAC

GAA-1 may create Asthma and COPD Related Diseases Societies in any country according to the local law called here below National Asthma Centers. Such centers should be created by certified Physicians, Pneumonologists, Allergologists, Immunologists and Pediatricians who are members of their National Societies. The minimum number of a National Center's founders should be Five (5).

GAA-1 accepts applications at [amc@interasma.org](mailto:amc@interasma.org), for the formation of such centers.

NACs may be created or dissolved by the Ordinary General Assembly upon proposal of the Board. The internal organization of a particular NAC, under GAA-1, shall be regulated by rules approved by the GAA-1 Board.

The President of such NAC(Association) must be a member of the Country's Society (Thoracic, Allergy, Immunology, Pediatric). The eventual merge of GAA-1 Association or absorbance by a similar National Association is under the decision of the General Assembly of GAA-1.

### **WORKING GROUPS**

3.2 GAA-1 may create Working Groups for the advancement or the study of a particular topic or subject. Those working groups may be created or dissolved by the written agreement of 4/5 of the Board Members (and/ or approved by the majority of the General Assembly).

### **OFFICIAL JOURNAL**

The official journal of GAA-1 is Asthma Research and Practice. The Board, the bodies and the members should contribute with scientific works to the continuation of the journal. The editor in chief shall serve on the Board as scientific advisor.

### **Article 4: Affiliated Bodies**

Any interested body such as Patient societies, Nurse Associations or Allied health Professionals can apply to GAA-1 for affiliated membership. The terms of such affiliation are regulated by the Board approved conditions.

Such bodies will not have voting rights at the General Assembly.

### **Article 5: Individual Members**

The following are Individual Members:

- a) All members declared to GAA-1 by their National Thoracic Society, Allergy and Immunology Society, Pediatric Society.
- b) All members of the NC/Associations created by GAA-1 as well as Councils and Working groups which are not declared by their National Societies.
- c) Any pneumonologist, allergist, immunologist, pediatrician that wishes to join GAA-1 may send an application to [amc@interasma.org](mailto:amc@interasma.org) and after approval will receive the membership and its benefits.

The GAA-1 Board will take a decision.

The individual Members of the GAA-1 are represented at the Assembly through National Societies, NC/Associations, Councils and Working Groups as specified in article 3.

### **FELLOWS**

Physicians, scientists and other professionals who have made a major contribution in the field of Asthma and related diseases in research, prevention, diagnosis and management may apply to become a Fellow of the Global Asthma Association- Interasma GAA-1 (F GAA-1)

Nurses who have made a major proved contribution may apply to become Nurse Fellow of GAA-1 (NF GAA-1)



## MEMBER RESIGNATION

Individual members, nurse fellows and Fellows of GAA-1 may resign by sending their resignation to [amc@interasma.org](mailto:amc@interasma.org). Their membership will then be terminated by the end of the current year. Those individual members or fellows who have not paid annual dues for two years or are expelled will lose their voting rights at the General Assembly.

## Article 6: GAA-1 Scientific Activities

GAA-1 for the scientific results produced from the working groups, the councils, the NACs organizes the following:

- National GAA-Interasma Meetings
- Regional Meetings
- The World Congress of Asthma

For the organization of such meetings may appoint a core PCO who may be responsible for the Association Management of GAA-1.

## Article 7: Resources

The GAA-1 sources of revenues include :

- Membership dues from National Societies, GAA-1 National Centers, Individual Members. The amount of such dues will be determined by the Board.
- Remunerations and contributions earned from services rendered and any other resources according to the Law.
- Donations
- Any other authorized source of income
- The biannual World Congress

## Article 8: Board

8.1 The administration of GAA-1 is conducted by the Board of Directors as follows:

- Voting members elected by the ordinary General Assembly
- Exofficio voting members (if any)
- The Chief Executive Officer
- The Association Management Representative or Chief Financial Officer

8.2 The Executive Committee (ExCom) is the highest body of GAA-1 and consists of:

- a) President
- b) President Elect
- c) 1st Vice Presidents , 2nd Vice President
- d) Secretary General
- e) Treasurer
- f) Immediate-Past President
- g) Past-Past President
- h) Historian
- i) Chief Executive Director
- j) Association Management Representative (Non voting member)

### 8.3 Members at Large

Are voting members elected by the Executive Committee in recognition of their contribution, service and support to GAA-Interasma projects and growth and are responsible for setting the mission of GAA-1, act with care and loyalty, determining the strategic direction and assist GAA-1 to expand and grow.

### 8.4 Adjunct members:

After a membership term of five years voting member can become adjunct member by application to GAA-1 stating their involvement in any project of GAA-1 within which they are active.

### 8.5 Ex Officio

The Presidents of the GAA-1 NACs, the President Elect, the Immediate Past President of such centers.



8.6 The duration of mandate lasts two years and consists of:

- President (two years)
- President Elect (two years)
- Vice Presidents (two years)
- Secretary (five to eight years)
- Treasurer (five to eight years)
- Immediate Past President (two years)
- Past President (two years)
  
- Executive Director (five to eight years)
- AMC (five to eight years)

The General Assembly shall elect the ExCom and the Adjunct Members.

The election concerns the two Vice Presidents, the 1st VP will become President Elect in two years, the 2nd VP becomes 1st VP in two years and in two years after may become President Elect.

The positions of the Secretary General and the Treasurer are for five to eight years.

In the event of resignation of an ExCom Member he/she will be replaced as follows:

The President by the President Elect. Concerning the two Vice Presidents, the General Secretary and the Treasurer, the ExCom has the right to appoint another voting member at its discretion and will refer the matter to the next General Assembly for an approval vote covering the balance of the mandate.

The duties of the Board members are executed free of charge.

The positions of the Executive Director and the AMC have a duration of five to eight years with the possibility of renewal, the qualities of those executives are knowledge of Law, taxation, banking, marketing, public relations and industry relations and deep knowledge of the Global Medical & Industry Affairs.

#### **Article 9 : Board Meetings**

The Executive Committee meetings are at least two per year (during EACCI,ERS or in one of the USA Congress' such as the ATS or AAAAI)

The Excom meetings shall be convened by the President and/or the Chief Executive Director.

Half of the Management Board ExCom, should be present to ratify decisions. Decisions will be made by the majority of the votes of the members present.

No proxy votes are accepted. Absent Board Members may submit their opinion in writing.

The ExCom may organize teleconference at its discretion, six to eight per year.

The meeting will be recorder and send by the AMC Company Rep.

#### **Article 10: Role and Responsibilities of the Board**

The ExCom is invested with the power to execute or authorize others to execute all acts and operations of GAA-1 which are not reserved for the General Assembly

The Executive Committee approves the procedures as draft by the Chief Executive Director and AMC and made available to the GAA-1 bodies. The role of the ExCom includes but is not limited to:

- Defining the strategy of GAA-1
- Creating projects that develop and grow GAA-1
- Promote GAA-1 in all meetings they attend
- Create relations with the key players in the science and industry
- Keep and expand relations with Sister Societies
- Decide the place and the Committees of the World Congress
- Be aware and approve the budgets and reports
- Appoint the appropriate members for the sub Committees
- Meet with Partners and Sponsors
- Develop projects for grants
- Create possibilities for the development and training of young Physicians
- Establish scholarships
- Assist NC's and people in developing countries or countries with poverty

Organize humanitarian activities

Approving and amending the internal organization of GAA-1 Bodies

The President will be responsible for executing the decisions of the Board and ensuring the smooth running of the GAA-1.

In the event of an emergency, the Board shall have authority to make any appropriate decision by a simple majority of the voting Board members. In such a case, the decision may be taken on written consultation. In such a case, powers are conferred to the President or the Chief Executive Director to implement the decision made.

Chair the ExCom and Ordinary and Extraordinary General Assemblies.

Representing the GAA-1 with respect to all civil matters and holding full authority to commit the Society without prejudice for the powers expressly held by the Board

Representing GAA-1 at law, as plaintiff or defendant. He/she can only be replaced by a representative acting by virtue of a special power of attorney

Bringing any action at law to defend the interests of the Society, permit any transactions and lodge appeal;

Finalizing the agenda for the Board and meetings and General Assemblies

The President may delegate part of his authority and signature.

#### **ARTICLE 11 - General Assemblies**

a) General Assemblies will be qualified as Ordinary but when decisions are to be made related to alterations in the Statutes or liquidation of the GAA-1 they are qualified as Extraordinary.

General Assemblies are attended by the current Board and the delegates from the National Societies, National Asthma Centers (or Associations), Councils and Working Groups (designated below as "GAA-1 Bodies"). The names of the voting delegates have to be received by the AMC (amc@intersma.org) who will forward to the Secretary General of the GAA-1 at least two weeks before the General Assembly.

1) Each National Society is represented by its President (or his/her replacement)

2) National Asthma Centers (or associations) are represented by the President or the Executive Director

3) Working Groups and Councils are represented by their Chairpersons

All delegates have the right to vote. Votes must be cast in person and cannot be transferred through other persons,.

b) Notification to attend

Notification to attend must be given, by post or by electronic mail, no less than thirty (30) days in advance to the Presidents of the National Societies and the Associations, and to the Chairperson of the Working Groups and Councils.

c) Agenda of General Assemblies

The agenda will be drawn up by the Board and circulated to members and delegates no less than thirty (30) days in advance.

Only those items appearing on the agenda of the General Assemblies will be discussed and voted on.

Each GAA-1 Body may submit in writing to the AMC who will forward to the Secretary General of the Board any issue or proposal not governed by these Statutes, no less than four (4) months before the next General Assembly and, if approved by the Board, it will be put on the agenda of the General Assembly.

d) Assembly Address

The President of the GAA-1 presides over the General Assemblies and is responsible for all procedures related to the preparation and conduct of the General Assemblies. If the President is unable to perform these tasks, these may be conducted by the Chief Executive Director.

e)Minutes

The resolutions of the General Assemblies will be recorded in minutes signed by the President and the Secretary of the meeting and kept in a special register which may be the same as that containing the minutes of the Board.  
Copies or extracts of said minutes must be signed by the President of the Board or by two Board members.

**ARTICLE 12- Ordinary General Assembly**

The Ordinary General Assembly shall meet every two years, preferably at the Annual Congress of the GAA-1. Additional Ordinary General Assemblies shall be convened by the GAA-1 President as required, or at the request of no less than two thirds of the delegates as specified in Article 11.

**12.1 Quorum & Majority**

In order to deliberate validly, the Ordinary General Assembly must be formed by no less than 20% of the total number of designated delegates representing the GAA-1 Constituent Bodies according to article 11. If said condition is not met, the Ordinary General Assembly will be reconvened within two (2) months. At the second meeting it shall deliberate validly, whatever the number of delegates of the GAA-1 Constituent Bodies is present, but only upon those items on the agenda of the previous Assembly.

Decisions of the Ordinary General Assembly will be made by a simple majority of the votes cast by the designated delegates. Null and blank votes are included in the number of votes cast. In the event of a tied vote the President will have the casting vote.

6  Two handwritten signatures in black ink are located at the bottom right of the page. The signature on the left is more stylized and appears to be 'DS', while the one on the right is more cursive and appears to be 'Perry'.