
Proposed Amendments to ICAR Statutes.

Amendments to the ICAR Statutes

Article 1. Title

Present formulation

- 1.1 There is already established, with membership consisting of those accepting this Statutes, an association to be known as the International Committee for Animal Recording (acronym: ICAR).

Proposal

- 1.1 The International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR) is a non-profit international organization with membership consisting of public and private entities accepting these Statutes and active in animal identification and in the recording and evaluation in animal production.

Justification

The present formulation does not define the basic characteristic of the organization. The proposed changes expand the mission of ICAR to cover recording and evaluation in animal production which includes performance recording and genetic evaluation of farm animals and recording and evaluation of elements of animal production systems

Article 2. Objectives

Present formulation

The Objectives of ICAR, an international non-profit organisation, shall be to:

- 2.1 Promote the development and improvement of performance recording and evaluation of farm animals. Such Object to be achieved through establishing definitions and standards for measuring animal characteristics having economic importance, through:
- a) establishing rules, standards and guidelines for the purpose of identifying animals, the registration of their parentage, recording their performance, evaluating their genetics, and publication of such;
 - b) promoting discussion and collaboration in all activities having to do with animal performance recording and evaluation within and among international organisations, public authorities and industry;
 - c) encouraging the use of animal records for the purpose of assessing the value of animals and farm management systems, given that both aspects have a bearing on the profitability of animal production;
 - d) facilitating the interpretation of animal records at the practical level by publishing reports showing the results obtained through the application of performance recording and evaluation.

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Proposal

The Objectives of ICAR shall be to:

- 2.1 Promote the development and improvement of recording and evaluation in animal production. Such Objective to be achieved through establishing definitions of and guidelines for measuring animal characteristics having economic importance and characteristics of production systems having a bearing on animal health, care, productivity, food safety and the environment through:
- a) establishing rules, standards and guidelines for the purpose of:
 - i. identifying animals, the registration of their parentage, recording their performance, evaluating their genetics, and publication of such;
 - ii. identifying characteristics of production systems and their bearing on animal health, care, productivity, food safety and the environment;
 - b) promoting discussion and collaboration in all activities having to do with animal performance recording and evaluation and recording and evaluation of characteristics of production systems within and among international organisations, public authorities and industry;
 - c) encouraging the use of animal records for the purpose of assessing the value of animals and farm management systems, given that both aspects have a bearing on the profitability of animal production;
 - d) facilitating the interpretation of animal records at the practical level by publishing reports showing the results obtained through the application of performance recording and evaluation.

Justification

The new proposal introduces the involvement of ICAR in identification, recording and evaluation of characteristics of production systems and their bearing on animal health, care, productivity, food safety and the environment as new fields of activity of ICAR Members. Recording and evaluation of characteristics of production systems represent new challenges and opportunities for expansion of services ICAR Members provide and offer to their clients. The proposal is based on developments in programs and activities of a number of ICAR Members in the field of animal health and functional traits recording, very good and encouraging activities of the ICAR WG Functional Traits and the establishment of the WG Animal Care. It fits well within the image and the role of ICAR as a global provider of information for business decisions related to genetic improvement and farm/herd management. Potential fields for further expansion could be recording of GHG and N emissions.

Article 3. ICAR standards, rules and guidelines

Present formulation

- 3.1 ICAR develops and establishes standards to define criteria to be applied consistently in the provision of recording and evaluation services, in the manufacture and supply of animal identification, performance recording and analytical devices and in testing of such and in analysis of animal products and performance for recording and evaluation purposes.

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- 3.2 ICAR rules define basic principles of animal identification, registration of parentage, performance recording and genetic evaluation.
- 3.3 On the basis of sound scientific evidence, the ICAR guidelines recommend procedures and methods of animal identification, registration of parentage, performance recording and genetic evaluation.

Proposal

- 3.1 ICAR defines basic principles of animal identification, registration of parentage, performance recording and genetic evaluation and recording and evaluation of characteristics of production systems with a bearing on animal health, care, productivity, food safety and the environment.
- 3.2. ICAR develops and defines criteria to be applied consistently in the provision of recording and evaluation services, in the manufacture and supply of animal identification, performance recording and analytical devices and in testing of such and in analysis of animal products and performance for recording and evaluation purposes.
- 3.3 On the basis of sound scientific evidence, the ICAR guidelines recommend procedures and methods of animal identification, registration of parentage, performance recording and genetic evaluation and for recording and evaluation of characteristics of farm animal production technologies and systems with a bearing on animal health, care, productivity, food safety and the environment.

Justification

It is proposed that ICAR guidelines cover also recording and evaluation of characteristics of production systems with bearing on animal performance and environment.

Article 4. Seat

Present formulation

- 4.1 ICAR's registered offices are established at Via Giuseppe Tomassetti 3, A/1, I-00161 Rome (Italy).
- 4.2 Any transfer of the Seat elsewhere shall be a matter for the decision of the Board, subject to ratification by the Extraordinary General Assembly.

Proposal

- 4.1 ICAR's registered offices are established in Rome (Italy).
- 4.2 Any change of address of the Seat shall be a matter for the decision of the Board. Any transfer elsewhere outside Italy shall be a matter for the decision of the Board, subject to ratification by the Extraordinary General Assembly.

Justification

The proposed formulation facilitates management of costs related to the physical location of ICAR offices in Rome.

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Article 5. Languages

Present formulation

- 5.1 The official languages shall be English, French, German and Italian.
- 5.2 The reference language for technical papers shall be English.

Proposal

- 5.1 The official language shall be English.
- 5.2 The Italian language shall be used in communication with local authorities.

Justification

The present formulation is outdated: the ICAR Secretariat does not accept documents in languages other than English. As the organization is registered in Italy, Italian is used in communication with local authorities.

Article 9. Cessation of membership

Present formulation

- 9.1 Membership shall cease upon resignation by the member in question.
- 9.2 Membership shall also be forfeited upon declaration to that effect by the Board on the grounds of the member's failure to pay its dues or for bringing ICAR into disrepute. The member, however, shall first be invited, by registered letter and electronic means, to come forward and present its explanation to the Board. Fees not paid for two clear years will forfeit membership.
- 9.3 Members whose membership is forfeited shall cease to participate in Subcommittee, Working Group and Task Force activities.

Proposal

- 9.1 Membership shall cease upon resignation by the member in question.
- 9.2 Membership shall also be forfeited upon declaration to that effect by the Board on the grounds of the member's failure to pay its dues or for bringing ICAR into disrepute. The member, however, shall first be invited, by registered letter and electronic means, to come forward and present its explanation to the Board. Fees not paid for two clear years will forfeit membership.
- 9.3 Associate membership shall be forfeited if the yearly fee is not paid within the calendar year.
- 9.4 Members whose membership is forfeited shall cease to participate in Subcommittee, Working Group and Task Force activities.

Justification

The new 9.3 has been proposed so as to avoid that Associate Members continue the use of ICAR logo three years without paying membership fee.

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Present formulation – The Board and the Executive Board

Article 11. The Board

- 11.1 ICAR shall be governed by a Board consisting of from seven to eleven members, to be elected for a four-year term by the General Assembly. Board members may be re-elected once only.
- 11.2 Board members shall be employed by, or own, an ICAR member organisation, or be mandated by a Full ICAR member, at the time of their election.
- 11.3 In the event of vacancy, the Board shall co-opt a member or members on an interim basis. The powers of so co-opted member shall cease at the following General Assembly.
- 11.4 The Board may further co-opt as a non-voting ex-officio member, for a fixed period of not more than one year, an individual with a specific skill-set whom the Board deem required.

Article 12. The Executive Board

- 12.1 The Board shall elect annually from among its members an Executive Board, consisting of a President, one or two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer and a Secretary.
- 12.2 The President of the Executive Board shall also be the President of ICAR
- 12.3 The President of the Board shall represent ICAR at law and shall, for the term of his office as Board Member, be vested with all powers to enter into all and any ordinary and extraordinary administrative transactions.

Proposal

Article 11. The Board

- 11.1 ICAR shall be governed by a Board consisting of from seven to eleven members, to be elected for a four-year term by the General Assembly. Board members may be re-elected once only.
- 11.2 Board members shall be employed by, or own, an ICAR member organisation, or be mandated by a Full ICAR member, at the time of their election.
- 11.3 In the event of vacancy, the Board shall co-opt a member or members on an interim basis. The powers of so co-opted member shall cease at the following General Assembly.
- 11.4 The Board may further co-opt as a non-voting ex-officio member, for a fixed period of not more than one year, an individual with a specific skill-set whom the Board deem required.
- 11.5 The Board can elect annually from among its members an Executive Board, consisting of a President, one or two Vice-Presidents, a Treasurer and a Secretary.

Article 12 – The President

- 12.1 The Board shall elect from among its members the President of ICAR.

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- 12.2 The President of ICAR shall represent ICAR at law and shall, for the term of his office, be vested with all powers to enter into all and any ordinary and extraordinary administrative transactions.
- 12.3 The President of ICAR shall also be the President of the Board and the President of the Executive Board.

Justification

The proposal defines way of election of the President of ICAR and its functions. The present formulation created problems in administrative transactions due to the fact that the election and functions of the President were not sufficiently defined. The provisions related to the Executive Board have been included into the Article dealing with functions of the Board.

Article 13. Meetings of the Board – Powers of the Board

Present formulation

- 13.2 The Board shall appoint a Secretary General and shall agree his/her terms of reference.

Proposal

- 13.2 The Board shall appoint a Chief Executive, who will not be member of the Board, and shall agree his/her terms of reference.

Justification

*The proposal introduces Chief Executive in lieu of Secretary General and defines that he or she is not a member of the Board.
The identical changes in terminology have been proposed in the Article 14 - The General Assembly (Ordinary).*

Article 16. The Secretariat

Present formulation

- 16.1 The Secretariat shall be under the direction of the Secretary General.
16.2 The location of the Secretariat shall be determined by the Board.

Proposal

Article 16. The Secretariat

- 16.1 The Secretariat shall be under the direction of the Chief Executive.
16.2 The location of the Secretariat shall be determined by the Board and ratified by the Extraordinary General Assembly in the event of a move outside of Italy.

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Justification

The proposal is consistent with proposed changes in Articles 4 (Seat) and 13 (Powers of the Board).

Article 21. Approval and use of Animal Recording Equipment

Present formulation

- 21.1 The Board may, on behalf of ICAR, accord recognition to suitably equipped test centres, which are able to test devices in accordance with ICAR's required standards.
- 21.2 Where the Board decides, certain devices which have already been accorded approval within a country or locality, may be considered acceptable for existing plant or installation in that country or locality. Members are expected to encourage and ensure conformity with ICAR guidelines for new installations.
- 21.3 Any new device receiving approval will have that approval published within fourteen days of approval being confirmed.

Proposal

Article 21. Certification and use of Animal Identification and Recording Devices

- 21.1 The Board may, on behalf of ICAR, accord recognition to suitably equipped test centres, which are able to test any such devices in accordance with ICAR's required standards.
- 21.2 Where the Board so decides, certain devices which have already been accorded approval within a country or locality, may be considered acceptable for existing plant or installation in that country or locality. Members are expected to encourage and ensure conformity with ICAR guidelines for new installations.
- 21.3 The Board shall, at sessions of the Ordinary General Assembly, make available to ICAR Members the full current list of all certified devices. Any new device receiving certification will have that certification published within fourteen days of approval being confirmed.

Justification

Changes have been made on the basis of the suggestions made by the related Sub-Committees.