

14 February 2019

Professor László Zentai
Secretary General & Treasurer
International Cartographic Association

By email: sg@icaci.org

Dear László

Re: Proposed changes to the ICA Statutes and By-laws, and comments concerning Article 15

The New Zealand Cartographic Society, the national member of the ICA representing New Zealand, wishes to submit the following changes to the ICA Statutes and By-laws (<https://icaci.org/ica-statutes/>) to be considered at the 18th General Assembly of the International Cartographic Association to be held on 15 and 20 July 2019 in Tokyo, Japan (Section A). Section B contains our comments concerning **Article 15** of the ICA Statutes and By-laws.

A. Proposed changes to the ICA Statutes and By-laws

Article 20. Payment of subscriptions

Existing version:

Each national member organisation and affiliate member is responsible for paying the annual subscription.

If a national member organisation has not paid its subscription for three consecutive years, the Executive Committee may decide that it shall be given observer status until payment is made. If they refuse to pay they will cease to form part of the Association by a decision taken by the General Assembly of Delegates.

The Executive Committee can institute individual membership of ICA. This will be introduced at a later date and regulated by the By-Laws.

New Zealand recommendation:

Each national member organisation and affiliate member is responsible for paying the annual subscription.

If a national member organisation has not paid its subscription for three consecutive years, the Executive Committee may decide that it shall be given observer status until payment is made. If they refuse to pay they will cease to form part of the Association by a decision taken by the General Assembly of Delegates.

The Executive Committee can institute individual membership of ICA. This will be introduced at a later date and regulated by the By-Laws.

Justification:

- ☉ The paragraph concerns membership, not payment, hence it should be considered for inclusion in **Article 3. National representation and membership of the Association.**
- ☉ The paragraph refers to a future plan, hence there is no need to include it in the Statutes until individual membership is introduced.
- ☉ As a principle, only the General Assembly can ratify membership of the ICA (**Article 3**). It is therefore against the practice of the Association to allow the Executive Committee to 'institute' membership.

By-law 1

Existing version:

- a. Each member nation subscription to the ICA shall be expressed in subscription units. All adhering member nations are divided into categories, **numbered I to VI**, and will pay annually the number of subscription units specified in that category.
- b. The categories and subscription units shall be as follows:
 - ☉ Category I: 1 subscription unit
 - ☉ Category II: 2 subscription units
 - ☉ Category III: 3 subscription units
 - ☉ Category IV: 4 subscription units
 - ☉ Category V: 6 subscription units
 - ☉ Category VI: 8 subscription units
 - ☉ Category VII: 10 subscription units
- c. Each member nation shall select the category into which it wishes to be classed. The Executive Committee may refuse a specification if the category chosen is believed to be inappropriate.
- d. The amount of the subscription unit, and the currency or currencies in which the subscription will be made, will be determined by the General Assembly on recommendation by the Executive Committee.
- e. The subscription for Affiliate members, as defined in By-law 5(a), is set as a minimum of one subscription unit for categories (1) and (2), a minimum for two subscription units for category (3) and (4) and a minimum of ten subscription units for category (5). There is no subscription fee payable for category (6) Affiliate members.
- f. If a subscription is in arrears for three consecutive years the Executive Committee can recommend to the General Assembly to cancel the membership.

New Zealand recommendation:

- a. Each member nation subscription to the ICA shall be expressed in subscription units. All adhering member nations are divided into categories, **numbered I to VII**, and will pay annually the number of subscription units specified in that category.
- b. The categories and subscription units shall be as follows:
 - ☉ Category I: 1 subscription unit
 - ☉ Category II: 2 subscription units
 - ☉ Category III: 3 subscription units
 - ☉ Category IV: 4 subscription units
 - ☉ Category V: 6 subscription units
 - ☉ Category VI: 8 subscription units
 - ☉ Category VII: 10 subscription units
- c. Each member nation shall select the category into which it wishes to be classed. The Executive Committee may refuse a specification if the category chosen is believed to be inappropriate.

- d. The amount of the subscription unit, and the currency or currencies in which the subscription will be made, will be determined by the General Assembly on recommendation by the Executive Committee.
- e. The subscription for Affiliate members, as defined in By-law 5(a), is set as a minimum of one subscription unit for categories (1) and (2), a minimum for two subscription units for category (3) and (4) and a minimum of ten subscription units for category (5). There is no subscription fee payable for category (6) Affiliate members.
- f. If a subscription is in arrears for three consecutive years the Executive Committee can recommend to the General Assembly to cancel the membership.

Justification:

- ☉ There are seven (I to VII) categories of subscription units.

B. Additional Comments

These comments are made for the consideration of the Secretary General:

Article 15. Domicile of the Association

Existing version:

The domicile of the Association is determined by the General Assembly.

Comments:

1. Currently the domicile of the Association is not determined.

The current wording of **Article 15** was voted on and accepted at the 16th General Assembly in Rio de Janeiro in response to the Swedish proposal (attached). Following its acceptance, the President immediately asked whether there are any proposals from the Assembly regarding the domicile of the Association. Sweden proposed to become the domicile country of the Association. The President then put this motion to vote resulting in Sweden becoming the domicile country of the ICA. However, **Article 10. Agenda** states: *“Motions not listed on the agenda cannot be brought to that Assembly for a decision.”* Although the motion of changing the wording of **Article 15** was on the Agenda, the motion of proposing Sweden to become the domicile country of the Association was not. Hence, any voting on the latter was against the ICA Statutes. In addition, **Article 28. Changes in the statutes** states: *“Changes in Statutes are effective immediately after the General Assembly at which they are adopted.”* Since the vote concerning the wording of **Article 15** and the vote on domicile country occurred during the same General Assembly, the latter vote was invalid as the change to **Article 15** was not in force yet. This leads to the conclusion that the domicile of the Association is not currently determined.

2. There is no procedure documented in the ICA Statutes and By-laws for the General Assembly to determine where the Association should be domiciled.

The ICA Statutes do not contain procedures to determine how to nominate a candidate country to become the domicile of the Association. Such procedures are necessary to conduct the voting. They could involve having a standing call for nominating a country and a standing vote on candidate countries during each General Assembly. A clear procedure needs to be agreed upon and included in the ICA Statutes and By-laws.

3. Inconsistency with Article 16. Secretariat.

Although the current wording of **Article 15** does not contradict the wording of **Article 16. Secretariat**, it is somehow inconsistent. **Article 16** states: *“A secretariat may be installed, either at the meeting place of the General Assembly of Delegates or at the*

domicile of the President or of the Secretary General and Treasurer.” In light of the above, the General Assembly determines the domicile of the Association (**Article 15**), while the President or Secretary General determines the domicile of the Secretariat (**Article 16**). It seems the former wording of **Article 15** (*“The domicile of the Association is determined by the President.”*) is more consistent with the original intentions of the ICA Statutes and By-laws. A careful consideration of the above point should be exercised.

We request our proposal for changes to the ICA Statutes and By-laws (Section A) to be included on the Agenda of the 18th General Assembly of the ICA to be held on 15 and 20 July 2019 in Tokyo, Japan.

We would be obliged if the Secretary General considers our comments concerning **Article 15** and highlighted in Section B.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Igor Drecki', with a horizontal line above it.

Igor Drecki
ICA Liaison
New Zealand Cartographic Society

Attachment: Motion to the ICA General Assembly 2015 dated 12 March 2015 submitted by Sweden (<https://icaci.org/files/documents/generalassembly2015/17-sweden-motion.pdf>)

Motion to the ICA General Assembly 2015

International Cartographic Association (ICA) is since 1999 registered at the Swedish Tax Agency as a non-profit organization with the registration number 885002-1018. Such a registration is necessary for handling bank accounts.

ICA was created in 1959 in Bern, Switzerland after a Swedish initiative lead by Dr Carl Mannerfelt. The Swedish Cartographic Society would like to continue the registration in Sweden and continue to handle the yearly income declaration of ICA.

Article 15 in the ICA statutes says that the ICA President has the authority to decide the domicile of ICA. The Swedish Cartographic Society proposes to move that authority to the ICA General Assembly. That also implies that the by-laws must be changed, stating that the General Assembly of ICA has the right to decide about the domicile of ICA, and subsequently that the right of the ICA President to decide about the domicile of ICA shall be removed. Paragraph 15 of the ICA Statutes now reads:

Article 15. Domicile of the Association

The domicile of the Association is determined by the President.

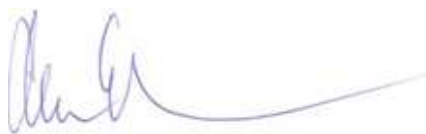
To summarise: The Swedish Cartographic Society would like to change the wording from *President* to *General Assembly*, to read as follows:

Article 15. Domicile of the Association

The domicile of the Association is determined by the General Assembly.

Motivation: Dr Carl Mannerfelt did a really good work to outline the purpose of ICA and to his honour ICA should be registered in Sweden. One other motivation is that ICA should continue to be registered in Sweden as it has been since 1999. By giving the authority to determine the domicile to the General Assembly, a change of domicile of ICA can only be taken after a motion from a member state or by a decision to the General Assembly taken by the Executive Committee.

Örebro, Sweden 2015-03-12



Ann Eriksson

President of the Swedish Cartographic Society/Kartografiska Sällskapet