

Constitution for the INTERNATIONAL MINES RESCUE BODY

Revision	1	2	3
Date	2015-09-06		
Paragraph	Initial Draft		

Charter and Founding Statement

Representatives from Poland, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Czech Republic, Romania, Slovakia, South Africa, Australia and the United States of America, at meeting on 29 May 2001, in Ustroń-Jaszowiec, Poland, agreed to appoint an International Mines Rescue Body with the key purpose to promote mines rescue operations in the international platform and initiate, as well as support, the co-operation aimed at progress in the mines rescue area

Article I - Name

This organisation shall be known at the **International Mines Rescue Body** and its abbreviated name will be referred to as the **“IMRB”**

Article II - Emblem

The IMRB will use the following logo on its' correspondence, website, letterheads etc., and the use of this emblem will be for official **IMRB** use only



Article III - Objectives

The objectives of the **IMRB** will include but not be limited to:

1. Establish co-operation with other professional organisations involved with mines rescue
2. Exchange and share information with different countries on the operation and organisation of Rescue Brigades
3. Exchange and share information on rescue operations
4. Exchange and share information on methods and principles of rescue training and rescue personnel
5. Exchange and share information on research findings of rescue equipment and respiratory system protection
6. Present new technical innovations and technological advances of rescue operations

Article IV – Membership

1. Full Member

Full members of the **IMRB** shall be voluntary membership of organisations representing the Central Mines Rescue Body / Organisation / Institute responsible for training, mobilisation of rescue teams and coordinating of rescue capabilities, or regulatory authorities of rescue activities of different countries and shall be limited to two persons from a country. Countries where mines rescue is state or provincial jurisdiction will be allowed only two representatives. However each country has only one vote.

2. Associate Member

Associate members shall be representatives from other organisations involved in the mining industry or rescue industry, Universities or research and development centers where involvement can benefit the objectives of the **IMRB**. Associate members may attend, but will not be entitled to vote at general meetings and may not hold any office

3. Application for Membership

Any organisation or country wishing to become a member shall make application to the **IMRB** and such application shall be considered at a general meeting of Full Members. Acceptance of membership and type of membership shall require a two third majority of Full members.

Where a country has more than two organisations representing state or provincial mines rescue and there is conflict in determining who should be the Full Member, the **IMRB** will determine which jurisdiction will represent the country.

4. Membership Register

A register of all members shall be maintained that includes the name of the organisation, the country it represents and the names of the person or persons representing that organisation.

5. Withdrawal of Membership

Membership will be withdrawn where the member resigns or where the member no longer participates in the activities of the **IMRB** or fails to attend general meetings and in such case, the withdrawal of membership shall require acceptance by two third majority of Full Members at a general or special meeting

6. Good Standing of Members

Only members who have paid their membership fees are considered in good standing and are entitled to vote and attend any meetings

Article V - Officers

1. Conference Host

The Full members shall select and support as Conference Host, a “volunteer” nation to host the biennial mines rescue meeting, conference and related activities. This volunteer jurisdiction shall be the custodian of the **IMRB** during the term and shall be charged with the responsibility of arranging a meeting, conference and attend to any administrative functions for the efficient running of the **IMRB**

2. Chairperson

The Conference Host Country shall appoint a Chairperson from its ranks, who will preside over meetings and shall ensure that the **IMRB** is run and functions in accordance to this constitution

3. Secretary / Treasurer

The Full Members shall elect a Secretary / Treasurer, to serve a term of office, who will assist the Conference Host Country and Chairperson with the efficient running of the **IMRB**. This person will retain the membership register and will collect any fees or dues from members and present accounting records to the members at a general meeting

4. Finance Controlling Committee

There shall be elected a Finance Controlling Committee consisting of the Secretary / Treasurer and two additional persons

5. Term of Office

A term of office shall be two years and any officer referred to in sections, 2, 3 and 4 of this article can be re-elected to a serve additional term or terms

Article VI - Meetings

1. General Bi-annual Meeting

The Chairperson shall arrange a General Meeting of Full Members of the **IMRB** and this meeting will be held at least once every two years that coincides with the same period as the Term of Office above

2. Special Meetings

If required, a special meeting can be called by the Chairperson to discuss urgent issues that cannot be rolled over to the next general bi-annual meeting and such special meeting need not be attended by Full members in person and can be done electronically (teleconference, e-mail or conference call).

3. Voting and Quorum

Before any meeting a quorum will be established and this shall be at least 75% of Full Members in good standing being present. All Full Members, in good standing, are entitled to a vote and voting will be a simple show of hands, unless the Chairperson, at his/her discretion, deems it necessary for a secret ballot. All decisions or resolutions, unless specified separately in this constitution, will require a simple majority where a majority is fifty percentile of Full Members present plus one. The Chairperson shall be entitled to vote as

he or she represents a Full Member Country. The Secretary / Treasurer shall ordinarily not be a voting member however, in the event of a deadlock, the Secretary / Treasurer has a casting vote

Article VII – Membership Fees

Membership fees will be approved at each general meeting and shall be based on a budgeted forecast of expenses of the **IMRB** for the ensuing two years / term of office. The Secretary / Treasurer shall present the budget for consideration together with the actual expense of the previous year or term of office. Members will be required to pay their membership fees within six months after the general meeting. A bank account will be opened in the name of the **IMRB** where all membership fees will be deposited and expenses paid from. Authorizations for expenses shall be obtained by the Financial Controlling Committee.

Article VIII – Constitutional Amendments

Amendments to this constitution shall be submitted in writing at least four weeks prior to a meeting. Any amendment to this constitution shall require a two third majority vote by all Full members as listed in the membership register at the time of the meeting.

This constitution was adopted at a general meeting held in Hanover, Germany

on the 6th day of September 2015 and is duly signed by the
Chairman and Secretary / Treasurer on behalf of the members


Chairman


Secretary / Treasurer