



INTERPOL

# *General Regulations*

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[I/GREG/GA/1956 (2025)]

## **REFERENCES**

The General Regulations of the ICPO-INTERPOL adopted by the General Assembly at its 25th session (Vienna, Austria, 1956).

Articles 46 and 50 amended by the General Assembly at its 31st session (Madrid, Spain, 1962) by Resolution AGN/31/RES/12.

Articles 41 and 58 amended by the General Assembly at its 33rd session (Caracas, Venezuela, 1964).

Article 58 amended by the General Assembly at its 36th session (Kyoto, Japan, 1967) by Resolution AGN/36/RES/8.

Articles 52 and 56 amended by the General Assembly at its 37th session (Tehran, Iran, 1968) by Resolution AGN/37/RES/6.

Article 40 amended by the General Assembly at its 43rd session (Cannes, France, 1974)

Article 58 amended by the General Assembly at its 44th session (Buenos Aires, Argentina, 1975) by Resolution AGN/44/RES/7.

Article 41 amended by the General Assembly at its 46th session (Stockholm, Sweden, 1977) by Resolution AGN/46/RES/11.

Article 53 amended by the General Assembly at its 52nd session (Cannes, France, 1983) by Resolution AGN/52/RES/7.

Article 51 rewritten, Article 53 became Article 52, new Article 53 added, Articles 52, 54, 55, 56, and 57 abrogated, Articles 58 to 60 renumbered 54 to 56. Amendments adopted by the General Assembly at its 54th session (Washington, D.C., United States, 1985) by Resolution AGN/54/RES/8.

The English version of Article 53 amended and the term “Staff Rules” replaced by “Staff Regulations” by the General Assembly at its 56th session (Nice, France, 1987) by Resolution AGN/56/RES/4.

Article 52 amended by the General Assembly at its 57th session (Bangkok, Thailand, 1988) by Resolution AGN/57/RES/1. This article, as amended in 1988, was abrogated by the General Assembly at its 65th session (Antalya, Türkiye, 1996) by Resolution AGN/65/RES/23 and replaced by a new Article 52 which entered into force on 1 July 1997.

Articles 35, 36, and 37 amended by the General Assembly at its 66th session (New Delhi, India, 1997) by Resolution AGN/66/RES/2.

Article 54 amended by the General Assembly at its 68th session (Seoul, Republic of Korea, 1999) by Resolution AGN/68/RES/10.

Article 43 amended by the General Assembly at its 82nd session (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 2013) by Resolution AG-2013-RES-15.

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Article 44 amended by the General Assembly at its 83rd session (Monaco, 2014) by Resolution AG-2014-RES-16.

Article 44 amended by the General Assembly at its 86th session (Beijing, China, 2017) by Resolution GA-2017-86-RES-02.

Articles 39 and 52 amended by the General Assembly at its 88th session (Santiago, Chile, 2019) by Resolution GA-2019-88-RES-10.

Articles 2, 32, 39, 40, 41, 44, 45, 54, and 55 amended by the General Assembly at its 89th session (Istanbul, Türkiye, 2021) by Resolution GA-2021-89-RES-02.

Articles 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 18, 20, 21, 22, 33, and 35 amended, and Articles 10, 11, 13, 36, 37, and 38 deleted by the General Assembly at its 91st session (Vienna, Austria, 2023) by Resolutions GA-2023-91-RES-03 and GA-2023-91-RES-04.

Article 56 amended by the General Assembly at its 92nd session (Glasgow, United Kingdom, 2024) by Resolution GA-2024-92-RES-10.

Articles 6, 8, and 48 amended by the General Assembly at its 93rd session (Marrakech, Morocco, 2025) by Resolution GA-2025-93-RES-07.

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# **GENERAL REGULATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION-INTERPOL**

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## **Article 1**

These General Regulations and Appendices have been adopted in accordance with Article 44 of the Constitution of the Organization.

Should there be any differences between the two, the Constitution shall prevail.

### **GENERAL ASSEMBLY: PLACE - DATE - INVITATIONS**

## **Article 2**

The General Assembly shall meet every year in ordinary session.

## **Article 3**

The Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly shall set out the rules and procedures governing the functioning and decision-making process of the General Assembly.

## **Article 4**

In conformity with Article 12 of the Constitution, the General Assembly shall decide to hold its sessions on the territory of a Member.

The General Assembly may also decide to hold its sessions at the seat of the Organization or by virtual means.

## **Article 5**

Any Member may host a session on its territory.

The Rules concerning the organization of General Assembly sessions shall set out the obligations incumbent upon Members wishing to host a session of the General Assembly.

## **Article 6**

The President shall fix the date when the Assembly is to meet after consulting the authorities of the host country and the Secretary General.

## **Article 7**

The invitations convening Members shall be sent not less than 120 days before the opening of the session.

## **Article 8**

(1) The following may be invited to attend sessions of the General Assembly as observers:

- (a) Representatives of countries that have applied for membership according to Article 4 of the Constitution at General Assembly sessions at which their application is considered;
- (b) International, intergovernmental or non-governmental organizations;
- (c) Advisers.

(2) The list of observers shall be drawn up by the Executive Committee and should be approved by the host country.

(3) The observers mentioned in § (a) shall be jointly invited by the host country and the Secretary General, while other observers shall only be invited by the Secretary General, after agreement of the Executive Committee and of the host country.

## **AGENDA**

## **Article 9**

The provisional agenda shall be drawn up by the Executive Committee and communicated to Members not less than 45 days before the opening of the session.

## **Article 10**

*[Deleted]*

## **Article 11**

*[Deleted]*

## **Article 12**

The provisional agenda and any request for the inclusion of additional items shall be submitted to the General Assembly for approval. The General Assembly shall take a decision as soon as practicable after the opening of the session.

## **Article 13**

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## EXTRAORDINARY SESSIONS

### Article 14

Extraordinary sessions shall be held, in principle, at the seat of the Organization or by virtual means.

An extraordinary session shall be convened, after assent has been given by the President, by the Secretary General, as soon as possible and not less than 30 days and no more than 90 days after the request has been made.

### Article 15

In principle, the agenda of an extraordinary session may only include the object for its convening.

## DELEGATIONS AND VOTING

### Article 16

Members shall notify the Secretary General as early as possible of the composition of their delegations.

### Article 17

The General Assembly shall make its decisions in plenary session by means of resolutions.

### Article 18

Subject to Article 52 of the General Regulations, each country represented has one vote.

Voting shall be performed by the head of the delegation or another delegate appointed by him or her to act on his or her behalf.

The representative of one Member may not vote for another Member.

### Article 19

The decisions of the Assembly shall be taken by a simple majority, except where otherwise provided by the Constitution.

### Article 20

The majority shall be decided by a count of those delegations present and casting an affirmative or negative vote.

### Article 21

When the Constitution requires a “majority of the Members”, the calculation of this majority shall be based on the total number of the Members of the Organization, whether or not they are represented at the General Assembly session.

### Article 22

Voting shall be by recorded vote or secret ballot by using an electronic voting system. If not resorting to an electronic voting system, voting shall be by show of hands, roll call or secret ballot.

The General Assembly shall vote on a proposal by a delegation to vote by secret ballot.

### Article 23

Persons composing the Executive Committee shall be elected by secret ballot.

If two candidates obtain the same number of votes, a second ballot shall be taken. If this is not decisive, lots shall be drawn to determine which shall be chosen.

### Article 24

Resolutions may be voted on paragraph by paragraph, on the request of any delegate. In such a case, the whole shall subsequently be put to the vote.

Only one complete resolution shall be voted on at one time.

### Article 25

When an amendment to a proposal is moved, the amendment shall be voted on first.

If there are several amendments, the President shall put them to the vote separately, commencing with the ones furthest removed from the basis of the original proposal.

## CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

### Article 26

Meetings of the Assembly and the committees shall not be public, unless otherwise decided by the Assembly.

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## Article 27

The Assembly may limit the time to be allowed to each speaker.

## Article 28

When a motion is under discussion, any Member may raise a point of order and this point of order shall be immediately decided by the President.

Should this be contested, any delegate may appeal to the Assembly, which shall immediately decide by a vote.

## Article 29

If, during the discussions, a speaker moves the suspension or adjournment of the meeting or the debates, the matter shall immediately be put to the vote.

## Article 30

A delegate may at any time move the closure of the debates. Two speakers opposed to the closure may then speak, after which the Assembly shall decide whether to accede to the motion.

## Article 31

The Assembly may not vote on a draft resolution unless copies of it in all the working languages have been distributed.

Amendments and counter-proposals may be discussed immediately unless a majority of Members request that written copies of them shall be distributed first.

When a draft resolution has financial consequences, the Executive Committee shall be requested to give its opinion and the discussions postponed.

## Article 32

The Secretary General or his or her representative may intervene in the discussions at any moment.

## **SECRETARIAT**

## Article 33

Summary records of proceedings of the Assembly in the working languages shall be distributed as soon as possible.

## Article 34

The Secretary General shall be responsible for the secretariat work of the Assembly; for this purpose he shall engage the necessary personnel and direct and control them.

## **COMMITTEES**

## Article 35

The General Assembly may decide to establish such committees as it deems necessary to perform its functions.

The General Assembly may decide, at any time, to abolish a committee established under the present Article.

## Article 36

*[Deleted]*

## Article 37

*[Deleted]*

## Article 38

*[Deleted]*

## **THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

## Article 39

The Rules of Procedure of the Executive Committee shall lay down the rules and procedures governing the functioning and decision-making process of the Executive Committee.

## Article 40

The General Assembly shall establish an Elections Board at the beginning of each session.

The Elections Board shall scrutinize the nominations to determine whether they are valid and supervise the election of Executive Committee members.

At the end of the ordinary session, the General Assembly shall hold elections in order to fill such vacancies on the Executive Committee as exist. Nominations must be put forward by the Members. Members whose voting rights have been suspended under Article 52 of the General Regulations may not put forward nominees for election.

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## **Article 41**

If, for any reason whatsoever, the President can no longer perform his or her duties either during or between sessions, his or her place shall temporarily be taken by the senior Vice-President.

Should all the Vice-Presidents be absent, the duties of President shall provisionally devolve upon a Delegate of the Executive Committee designated by the other members of the Executive Committee.

## **GENERAL SECRETARIAT**

### **Article 42**

The Assembly shall elect a Secretary General by secret ballot for a term of office of five years.

The candidate for the post of Secretary General shall be proposed by the Executive Committee.

### **Article 43**

The Secretary General should be or have been a police official.

### **Article 44**

The five-year term of office of the Secretary General shall commence at the end of the incumbent's term of office and terminate at the end of the General Assembly session held in the year in which his or her term of office expires.

The Secretary General's term of office shall terminate on completion of the prescribed five-year period provided for in Article 28 of the Constitution, or in the event of the Secretary General's resignation, death, removal from office, or upon reaching the age limit as specified in Article 28 of the Constitution.

The Executive Committee shall determine the Secretary General's conditions of employment.

### **Article 45**

Should the Secretary General be unable to carry out his or her duties, these shall be performed in the interim by the highest-ranking official in the General Secretariat, provided that the Executive Committee has no objection.

## **THE ADVISERS**

### **Article 46**

Advisers may be individually or collectively consulted on the initiative of the Assembly, the Executive Committee, the President or the Secretary General. They may make suggestions of a scientific nature to the General Secretariat or the Executive Committee.

### **Article 47**

At the request of the General Assembly, the Executive Committee or the Secretary General, reports or papers on scientific matters may be submitted to the Assembly by Advisers.

### **Article 48**

Advisers may attend sessions of the General Assembly as observers and, on the invitation of the President, may take part in the discussions.

### **Article 49**

Several Advisers may be nationals of the same country.

### **Article 50**

The Advisers may meet when convened by the President of the Organization.

## **BUDGET - FINANCE - PERSONNEL**

### **Article 51**

The Financial Regulations shall lay down rules governing:

- the determination of statutory contributions and payment conditions,
- the preparation, approval, implementation and control of the budget,
- the organization of an accounting system and the keeping, control and approval of the accounts,
- the procurement of works, supplies and services and the control of contracts, and shall also contain all relevant general provisions concerning the Organization's financial management.

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## **Article 52**

- (1) Any Member that has not paid its statutory contributions to the Organization for the current financial year and the previous financial year shall have no vote in the General Assembly, other than votes taken on amendments to the Organization's Constitution.
- (2) The Secretary General shall send a written notification to any Member that has failed to pay its statutory contributions to the Organization. The notification shall draw attention to the sanctions applied and the supporting measures established by the General Secretariat to encourage timely payment of contributions due. The Secretary General shall accordingly inform the Executive Committee and, where relevant, the General Assembly.
- (3) The General Assembly may, nevertheless, decide to waive the suspension of voting rights at its discretion, if the item has been added to the agenda of the session of the General Assembly.

## **Article 53**

The Staff Regulations shall specify the staff members of the Organization to which they apply, and lay down the rules and procedures governing their management. These rules shall specify the basic conditions of employment and the basic duties and rights of the staff members.

## **LANGUAGES**

### **Article 54**

- (1) The working languages of the Organization shall be Arabic, English, French and Spanish.
- (2) During General Assembly sessions, any delegate may speak in another language provided that he or she makes arrangements for the interpretation of his or her speeches into one of the languages mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article. Any request submitted by a group of countries for simultaneous interpretation of a language other than those mentioned in paragraph 1 of this Article must be sent, at least four months before the opening of the General Assembly session, to the Secretary General who will state whether such interpretation will be technically feasible.

- (3) Countries wishing to apply the special provisions in paragraph 2 of this Article may do so only if they have undertaken to provide adequate administrative facilities and to meet all expenses involved.

## **MODIFICATION OF THE GENERAL REGULATIONS**

## **Article 55**

These Regulations and their Appendices may be modified at the request of any Member so long as the suggested modification has been sent to the General Secretariat at least 120 days before the opening of the following session. The Secretary General shall circulate this proposal at least 90 days before the session of the General Assembly.

The Secretary General may propose a modification to the General Regulations or their Appendices by circulating his or her proposal to Members at least 90 days before the session of the General Assembly.

During the session, in case of urgent necessity, any modification of the Regulations or their Appendices may be placed before the Assembly provided a written proposal to this effect be submitted jointly by three Members.

## **Article 56**

The General Assembly shall take a decision on proposals for amendment of the Constitution or the General Regulations, or for the adoption or amendment of Appendices to the General Regulations, after consultation with the relevant committees of the General Assembly.

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