

STATUTES APPROVED BY THE EXTRAORDINARY CONGRESS IN DORDRECHT 23.06.10

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PREAMBLE

UNIMA (Union Internationale de la Marionnette) is an international Non-Governmental Organisation bringing together people from around the world who contribute to the development of the art of puppetry, with the objective of using this art in the pursuit of human values such as peace and mutual understanding between peoples, regardless of race, political or religious convictions and differences in culture, in accordance with the respect of fundamental human rights, such as defined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations of December 10th, 1948.

§1 - AIMS AND MEANS

The aim of UNIMA is to promote the art of puppetry. This aim can be achieved in the following ways:

- 1) By encouraging contacts and exchanges between puppeteers from all nations and continents, using all possible means of communication;
- 2) By organising congresses, conferences, festivals, exhibitions and competitions, or by giving UNIMA endorsement;
- 3) By assisting members of the Organisation in assuring their democratic, union, financial and legal interests in the framework of their professional activities, notably through recommendations or proposals to the competent authorities;
- 4) By encouraging professional training;
- 5) By extending historical, theoretical and scientific research;
- 6) By keeping alive traditions, as well as encouraging the renewal of puppetry;
- 7) By proposing puppetry as a means for ethical and aesthetic education;
- 8) By participating in the work of international organisations with similar objectives.

§2 - UNIMA MEMBERSHIP

2.1) All persons interested in the art of puppetry can be an UNIMA member.

2.2) UNIMA membership can be individual or collective.

2.3) It is an UNIMA National Centre that receives memberships. In Countries without a National Centre, memberships are received directly by the General Secretary.

2.4) A National Centre receives memberships from people and organisations of its own nationality or from people and/or organisations with permanent residence in the Country. If, for personal, cultural, political or any other kind of reason, a person or an organisation asks to become a member of a National Centre that is neither the one of his/her/its nationality nor residence, he/she/it must submit his/her/its request to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will give its approval after consultation of the concerned National Centre.

2.5) In the case of rejection of membership by a National Centre or the General Secretary, a candidate may appeal to the Executive Committee.

2.6) Persons of exceptional merit in the development of puppetry, and whose work is of international status, may be appointed for honorary membership of UNIMA.

2.a) MEMBER'S RIGHTS

Each UNIMA member has the right:

- 1) To receive a membership card;
- 2) To be elected in all the positions of UNIMA according to the UNIMA Rules of Procedure, as long as he/she has paid his/her fees in full;
- 3) To benefit from all advantages resulting from membership (international information, participation in international exchanges, professional assistance, scholarships, etc.;
- 4) To attend the Council and the Congress.

2.b) MEMBER'S DUTIES

2.b.1) Each member of UNIMA is required:

- 1) To apply him/her/itself to the pursuit of UNIMA objectives;
- 2) To respect the UNIMA Statutes and Rules of Procedure;
- 3) To pay membership fees as fixed by his/her/its National Centre or the UNIMA Congress.

2.b.2) Honorary members pay no fees.

2.c) LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

2.c.1) He/she/it is no longer a member of UNIMA:

- 1) Who has been excluded and struck off because of activities no longer complying with the fundamental principles of UNIMA, or because of serious infringements of the Statutes;
- 2) Who has submitted his/her/its resignation in writing;
- 3) Who has not paid his/her/its membership fees for more than one year.

2.c.2) The National Centre decides on the exclusion of a member, and if no National Centre exists, the decision rests with the Executive Committee.

2.c.3) A member who has been excluded by a National Centre may appeal to the Executive Committee. In case of exclusion by the Executive Committee, an appeal may be made to the Congress.

2.c.4) When a Centre does not pay its membership fees for a period of two years without the consent of the Executive Committee, or if its activities no longer comply with the fundamental principles of UNIMA, it will lose its rights and may be excluded from UNIMA by the Executive Committee.

§3 - THE RULING BODIES OF UNIMA

3.1) The ruling bodies of UNIMA are: the Congress, the Council, the Auditing Commission, the Executive Committee, the General Secretariat, the Commissions, the National Centres and the Representatives.

3.a) THE CONGRESS

3.a.1) The Congress, supreme body of UNIMA, consists of the elected Councillors, the Representatives, the outgoing members of the Executive Committee and the attending members of the Organisation. The Councillors and outgoing members of the Executive Committee only have the right to vote.

3.a.2) The Congress is held at least once every four years. It can make decisions if at least one third of its members is present or represented. It makes decisions on a simple majority base.

3.a.3) A special Congress must be convened if at least two thirds of the Council or National Centres so wish.

3.a.4) The Congress has the most far-reaching powers concerning the management of the Organisation.

- 1) It approves the report of activity of the Executive Committee;
- 2) It approves the report of the Auditing Commission;
- 3) It decides on the direction and the programme of activity for the period until the following Congress;
- 4) It becomes acquainted with the composition of the Council for the forthcoming term and elects an additional ten members to the Council. Only one councillor can be elected per country.
- 5) It approves modifications to the Statutes and the Rules of Procedure;
- 6) It deals with motions and proposals for resolutions which are presented;
- 7) It makes decisions on complaints and appeal;
- 8) It names Honorary Presidents;
- 9) It elects the members of the Executive Committee and of the Auditing Commission;
- 10) It elects the President, the Vice-Presidents, the General Secretary and the Treasurer from members of the Executive Committee;
- 11) It forms the Commissions, defines their objectives and elects their Presidents;
- 12) It fixes the fees for international and direct membership;
- 13) It becomes acquainted with the reports from the National Centres, the Commissions, the Representatives and the International Groups.

3.a.5) Only the National Centres and the members who have paid their fees in full have the right to be represented at the UNIMA Congress.

3.b) THE COUNCIL

3.b.1) The UNIMA Council consists of the Councillors democratically elected by the National Centres at least 9 months before each Congress for a four year term, the appointed Representatives, the ten additional Councillors elected during the previous Congress, the members of the Executive Committee and the attending members. Only the Councillors and the members of the Executive Committee have the right to vote.

In the event of a Councillor's death, resignation or striking off, the concerned National Centre is allowed to initiate an election of a new Councillor for the remaining period of the term.

3.b.2) A National Centre has the right to elect two Councillors; if the number of its members exceeds 100, it may elect three Councillors and four Councillors if this number exceeds 200.

3.c) THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, THE PRESIDENT, THE GENERAL SECRETARY, THE TREASURER AND THE VICE-PRESIDENTS

3.c.1) The Executive Committee directs UNIMA activities between Congresses.

3.c.2) The Executive Committee has the following tasks:

- 1) To carry out the programme of activities defined by the Congress;
- 2) To see that the Statutes and Rules of Procedure are respected;
- 3) To consider reports and motions referred to it;
- 4) To approve the annual budget of UNIMA and its use;
- 5) To approve the annual report by the General Secretary.

3.c.3) The President:

- 1) Represents UNIMA in all matters of law;
- 2) Presides over the Executive Committee and the Council;
- 3) Represents UNIMA in relation to other international bodies;
- 4) Is responsible for upholding the Statutes and Rules of Procedure.

3.c.4) The General Secretary

- 1) Coordinates the activities of UNIMA;
- 2) Informs the National Centres of these activities and organises the work of the Executive Committee;
- 3) Is responsible for the staff of the General Secretariat, the keeping of the archives and of the efficiency of the General Secretariat;
- 4) The General Secretary is responsible for the financial affairs of UNIMA together with the Treasurer.

3.c.5) The Vice-Presidents represent and/or replace the President every time the President is not in the position to assume his/her role. They do so in the order in which they have been elected: first the one who received the highest number of votes, then the other.

3.d) THE AUDITING COMMISSION

3.d.1) The Auditing Commission controls UNIMA's accounts as managed by the General Secretary and submits a report to the Congress.

3.d.2) Members of the Auditing Commission cannot be members of the Executive Committee.

3.d.3) The Auditing Commission is composed of three members. It makes decisions if at least two members are present.

3.e) NATIONAL CENTRES AND REPRESENTATIVES

3.e.1) An UNIMA National Centre may be established in two different ways:

- 1) By at least ten members (individual or collective) from a Country;
- 2) By a national puppetry organisation already in existence.

3.e.2) Only one National Centre can exist per Country. The Centre may consist of regional sections.

3.e.3) A demand for the establishment of a National Centre must be addressed to the Executive Committee for approval, and it must state:

- 1) That the Centre consists of at least ten members (individual or collective);
- 2) That the Centre acknowledges and applies the Statutes and Rules of Procedure of UNIMA. In any case, a National Centre must submit its Statutes and Rules of Procedure to the Executive Committee for approval.

3.e.4) Each National Centre develops its work on the basis of its own Statutes. It must be in touch with the General Secretariat and must carry out the decisions made by the international bodies of UNIMA.

3.e.5) The General Secretary can appoint an UNIMA Representative in a Country with no National Centre. The duration of a representative's mandate is one year. It may exceptionally be prolonged to two years by decision of the Executive Committee.

A Representative is above all a temporary contact of UNIMA and has the following functions:

- 1) To develop links between puppeteers of his/her Country with the aim of creating a National Centre;
- 2) To maintain a permanent link with the General Secretariat.

3.e.6) Several National Centres may gather into International Groups. The International Groups shall inform the Executive Committee, through the General Secretariat, of all their activities.

§4 - OFFICIAL NAME, HEAD OFFICE AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION

4.1) The official name of the Organisation is " UNIMA (Union Internationale de la Marionnette)".

4.2) UNIMA's head office is the General Secretariat's office.

4.3) In matters of law, UNIMA is represented by its President or, when this is not possible, by a Vice-President.

§5 - OFFICIAL LANGUAGES OF UNIMA

The languages adopted by UNIMA are: French, German, English, Russian and Spanish, as well as the language of the Country in which a Congress, a Council or an Executive Committee's meeting are being held.

§6 - FINANCES

6.1) UNIMA is financed by:

- 1) Membership fees;
- 2) Donations, bequests and grants;
- 3) Different income deriving from its activities.

6.2) It is the General Secretary who manages UNIMA's assets.

§7 - DISSOLUTION

7.1) The decision to dissolve UNIMA is made by the Congress with a two-thirds majority.

7.2) The Congress also decides on liquidation procedure.

Signed in Dordrecht (Netherland) - 25, June 2010

The President

Dadi PUDUMJEE

The General Secretary

Jacques TRUDEAU

President of the Statutes Commission

Knut ALFSEN