



IFMS STATUTES DATED MAY 2015

PREAMBLE

Recent centuries have witnessed violent conflicts as well as national and international upheavals.

The past few decades have brought about dramatic political changes due to the fall of the block forces and the victory of national interests.

We, Mountain Soldiers, have contributed to these changes in one way or another and now through the INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF MOUNTAIN SOLDIERS, wish to ensure not only its security and the memory of our forbearers, but a peaceful future for next generations.

History has always been influenced by people.

Based upon these common goals, former adversaries have become friends and established this Federation.

We all love our countries and homelands, but united beyond our borders in comradeship and love for the mountains, we seek peace, liberty and brotherhood for all people.

I. DEFINITION

The International Federation of Mountain Soldiers is an apolitical federation made up of recognised associations of former and/or current mountain soldiers.

Each of these national associations has been officially recognised by the country they represent, are organized under the relevant law of associations, and enjoy managerial freedom.

They are committed to the defence of their own countries and support the efforts for the building of understanding between nations.

This agreement is based upon a common love for the mountains and on the true spirit of comradeship that exist between mountain troops.

The Federation was founded to promote understanding between national associations, their members and future generations.



II. GOALS

The Federation pursues the following four goals :

- To work together towards peace, liberty and to preserve human rights.
- To preserve the memory and honour of comrades killed in combat or in the mountains, so that their sacrifice may contribute to building a world in which lasting peace, brotherhood and justice prevail.
- To preserve the true spirit of comradeship unique to mountain troops.
- To set an example for future generations and to direct them towards mutual recognition, respect and understanding.

III. STRUCTURES

The Federation is composed of :

The Secretary General

The Executive Committee

The General Assembly

IV. STRUCTURE AND GENERAL FUNCTIONING

With the purpose of facilitating its functioning, the Federation is organised and operates in the following manner :

All national languages are used for all meetings, reunions and congresses.
Working documents are in English.

4.1. SECRETARY GENERAL

The Secretary General is elected by the members of the Executive Committee, i.e. the representatives of national member associations with a qualified majority vote (2/3 of the voters).

The term is for three (3) years, and a maximum of two (2) terms are permitted, by vote of the Executive Committee.

Secretary General may not simultaneously hold the office of the President of a national association.



MISSION of the Secretary General:

- To represent the Federation vis-à-vis civilian and military authorities.
- To preside over the Executive Committee.
- To fulfil responsibilities with the full support of the national member association to which he or she belongs.
- To draw up minutes and correspondence.

4.2. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee is composed of the heads of the delegations of national member associations and represents his own Federation.

- Each national member association appoints a single representative and a deputy assisted by an interpreter, if necessary.
- The Executive Committee meets before the General Assembly at least once-a-year, or upon the proposal of at least three national member associations.
- Each member state has the right to one vote at the election.
- Members of the Executive Committee elect the Secretary General from among the representatives of national member associations.
- The Secretary General chairs the meeting of the Executive Committee and has the right to vote.

Mission of the Executive Committee :

- To consider requests of association for admission to the Federation.
- To make decisions on the exclusion of an association from the Federation, for which the President of the concerned association does not have the right to vote.
- To decide on the downgrade of an association to the level of 'Observer'.
- To decide on the dissolution of the Federation.
- To adopt all modifications to the Statute of the Federation.

The following decisions are taken by a unanimous vote.



- To determine and implement decisions regarding the general policy of the Federation.
- To set the direction and guidelines for the work of the Federation.
- To examine and decide on the proposals of the national member associations.
- To examine the reports and minutes of the Secretary General.
- To decide on the date and time of the IFMS Congress.
- To propose and draft amendments to the Statute of the Federation.
- To set and control the Federation's budget.
- To approve the annual balance sheet.
- To appoint the Financial Controller.

All decisions are made by a qualified majority vote (2/3 of the voters).

- To coordinate the organisation for the IFMS Congress.
- To draw up annual reports presented by the Secretary General at the General Assembly.
- All decisions of the Executive Committee have to be ratified by the General Assembly.

4.3. GENERAL ASSEMBLY

During the annual IFMS Congress, the General Assembly is attended by :

- a) Presidents of National Associations or their representatives
- b) Secretary General
- c) Delegations of national member associations
- d) Representatives of Observer States
- e) Special Guests
- f) Typist
- g) Interpreters

Only presidents of national associations or their representatives have the right to vote, with each country having one vote only.

In the event of tie, proposals and decisions are rejected.



The Executive Committee make decisions in accordance with the majority vote and based on the procedures mentioned above.

The Presidency of the General Assembly is ensured by the president of the host nation.

Regardless of their nature, all working documents exchanged must be translated into English.

V. ACTIVITIES

The IFMS Congress takes place once-a-year in one of the member states.

Each congress should have a central theme. The theme should be determined by the organizing national association (s).

The Congress should take place over 3 days.

- The first day should be dedicated to the Congress host nation military mountaineering topic.
- The IFMS Executive Committee meeting and the IFMS General Assembly should be conducted during the second day.
- The third day should be devoted to cultural or recreational activities along with mountain tradition and a formal dinner.

In addition, events which support comradeship and contribute to IFMS objectives, may be organised.

General Assembly Participants :

- National member associations represented by their delegations, observer states and guests.
- Delegations may be composed of a delegation leader, four delegates and four observers, Possibly accompanied by their spouses and guests.
- The Secretary General and delegations present their activities at the IFMS Congress, submit new proposals, and discuss and take decisions through their presidents or representatives.
- National member associations cover travel and accommodation expenses as well as the daily allowance of their delegations.
- The host association organises a formal dinner for the participating delegations in accordance with the host nation's capabilities and constrains.
- National member associations commit to support the objectives of the Federation, in accordance with their statutes, and to comply with the decisions of the Executive Committee.



VI. MEMBERS

National associations whose objectives are consistent with those of the Federation ask the Executive Committee for permission to join, submit their statutes and express approval of the statutes of the Federation.

Each country may only be represented by one association.

Only a nationally organized association is allowed to become member of the IFMS, no individuals.

Members of national associations must be honest citizens.

After reviewing national statutes and after the deadline for the submission of objections, the Executive Committee takes a decision.

Membership ends with resignation, exclusion or dissolution of a national member association or the Federation on the basis of the unanimous decision of the Executive Committee.

VII. OBSERVER AND GUEST STATES

Based on the proposal of the Secretary General or one of the national member associations and, after the approval of the Executive Committee, the IFMS Congress may be attended by observer states or by delegations of observer and guest states.

Observer states or delegations of observer states represent countries which are not yet members of the Federation but are interested in the Federation's objectives.

VIII. FUNDING

The membership fee will be determined by the Executive Committee.

Costs resulting from activities within the Federation are covered as follows :

- Costs incurred by members of the Executive Committee are covered by corresponding national member associations.
- Costs incurred by the Secretary General are covered by the national member association to which he belongs.
- The IFMS fund is established for the provision of IFMS general expenditures and costs referring to the operation of the IFMS are included in the amount for the representation of All national associations/members.



- The fund founded by national member associations is managed by the Secretary General who, within the Executive Committee, reports to the national associations/members on its operation.
- All expenses are subsequently reviewed by the Financial Controller elected from the members of the Executive Committee with a qualified majority vote (2/3 of the voters) .

The term is for three (3) years, two-term maximum, by vote of the Executive Committee.

- For the purpose of control, a preliminary assessment of the financial situation is prepared at the IFMS Congress.
- Current costs may be managed by the Secretary General.
- Important costs are first submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.

IX. AWARD-CERTIFICATE OF MERITS

Upon proposal by national member associations or by the Secretary General, the IFMS can award the most deserving members with a Certificate of Merit.

X. COMMUNICATION

With the support of the national member association, official communications i.e. electronic and paper documents, internet sites, etc. are managed by the Secretary General.

XI. AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTE

In accordance with the conditions set forth in 4.2 the Executive Committee adopts all amendments to the Statute of the Federation by unanimous vote.



Herby I declare the consent of the Association represented by me to the foregoing statutes:

Austria:

Manfred Schullern, Colonel
President of the Edelweizs-Corps

Germany:

Horst-Dieter Buhrmester, Colonel ret.
President of the Kameradenkreis der Gebirgstruppe e.V.

France:

Alian Giraud, General ret.
Representativ of the
Fédération des Soldates de Montagne

Italy:

Renato Cisilin
Representativ of the Associazione Nazionale Alpini

Montenegro:

Representativ of the Military Mountaineering club
“Kapetan”



Polen:

Representativ of the Stowarzyszenie byłych Żołnierzy
Polskich Sił Zbrojnych na Zachodzie “Karpaczczycy”

Switzerland:

Hans-Peter Walker, Colonel ret.
Representativ of the
Vereinigung Schweizer Gebirgssoldaten

Slovenia:

Fedar Vranicicar, Colonel ret.
President of the Združenje Vojaskih Gornikov
Slovenije Vojašnica Bohinjska Bela

Spain:

Representativ of the
Asociación Española de Soldados Veteranos de Montana

United States of America:

Representative of the
National Association of 10th Mountain Divison

