

**CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR SOUTHEAST
ASIAN AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
(ISSAAS)**

Chapter 1: General Rules

Article 1: The Society is referred to as the “International Society for Southeast Asian Agricultural Sciences” (ISSAAS)

Article 2: The society’s Central secretariat is to be established at the Kasetsart University-Tokyo University of Agriculture office located in Bangkok, Thailand. Regional Secretariats are established in other major Southeast Asian countries and Japan.

Chapter 2: Objectives and Tasks

Article 3: The main objective of the Society is to encourage the holistic approach to problems and promote the progress and development of science and technology related agricultural sciences through research and publication, and the outcome is to be for regional agricultural development. The Society is organized by scientist, technical experts, and other proponents of the Society’s goals in the broad field of agricultural sciences, whose activities are within the Southeast Asian region.

Article 4: The Society performs the following tasks in order to achieve these objectives;

- (i) Publish journal and other materials;
- (ii) Organize lectures, seminars, workshop, training programs etc.;
- (iii) Provide contacts, training, promotion, and commendation for research;
- (iv) Contact and cooperate among internationally/domestically related societies and institutions;
- (v) Conduct studies and develop proposals;
- (vi) Perform any other functions needed to achieve any of the above objectives.

Chapter 3: Membership

Article 5: The Society has the following types of membership:

- (i) Full
- (ii) Honorary
- (iii) Student
- (iv) Supporting
- (v) Group
- (vi) Life

- Article 6:** The types of membership mentioned in Article 5 are defined as follows:
- (i) A “full member” is one in complete accord with the Society’s goal.
 - (ii) An “honorary member” is one with distinguished academic accomplishment in Southeast Asian agricultural sciences or one who has served with special merit for the Society, recommended by the President to the Board of Directors and subject to approval at the General Meeting.
 - (iii) A “student member” is one with desire to join the Society as a student belonging to an educational institution.
 - (iv) A “supporting member” may be group recipient only of the Society’s journal.
 - (v) A “life member” is a full member who has prepaid the life membership fee.

- Article 7:** Members must pay the following membership fee.
- (i) US. \$ 15 annually for full member from Southeast Asian region.
 - (ii) US. \$ 100 annually for full member from other regions.
 - (iii) Honorary members are exempted from the fee.
 - (iv) Half of the annual fee for a student member.
 - (v) US. \$ 300 annually for supporting member.
 - (vi) US. \$ 100 annually for a group member.
 - (vii) Life Membership: Members over 55 years of age on payment of a lump sum fee, equivalent to five times or over of a full membership fee.

Article 8: Prospective members must complete an application form and submit it with the membership fee to the Society’s central secretariat or regional secretariat for its approval.

- Article 9:** Rights of members
A member is entitled to:
- (i) The Society’s journal
 - (ii) Contribute an article to the journal
 - (iii) Participate, present research papers, lectures, comments and engage in discussions at conferences.
 - (iv) Be elected as officers

Supportive and group members are not entitled to ii, iii and iv above.

Article 10: If a member wishes to terminate his/her membership, he/she must notify the Society and pay all arrears of membership fees etc.

Article 11: If a member engages in any activity that is deemed to be in conflict with the Society’s goal or is negligent in payment of their dues and arrears over an extended period of time, his/her membership may be revoked by the President subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

Chapter 4: Officers

- Article 12:** The Society has the following officers:
- (i) President
 - (ii) Vice Presidents- one from each major participating country.
 - (iii) Directors- two each from major participating countries and the Chairperson of the Editorial Committee.
 - (iv) Secretary General- one only
 - (v) Auditors- four
 - (vi) Advisors-several
- Article 13:** Duties and Responsibilities of Officers
- (i) The President presides over the Society's affairs and represents the Society
 - (ii) The Vice Presidents support the President, presides over the Society's affair in his/her country, and performs the President's role in his/her absence.
 - (iii) The Board of Directors discusses important affairs of the Society.
 - (iv) The Secretary General executes the Society's affairs, attends to the correspondence, maintains records and attends to various other business for the Society.
 - (v) The Auditors audit the Society's finances.
 - (vi) The Advisors answer all questions of the President on important matters relating to the Society.
- Article 14:** The Presidents is elected by the Vice Presidents from among the Advisors.
- Article 15:** The Vice Presidents are elected by the former Vice Presidents and Directors of each country.
- Article 16:** The Directors are elected by the former Vice Presidents and Directors of each country.
- Article 17:** The Secretary General is elected by the Board of Directors.
- Article 18:** The Auditors are elected by the Board of Directors.
- Article 19:** The Advisors are nominated by the Presidents with the recommendation of the Board of Directors.
- Article 20:** Term of Officer
- (i) The President's term of office is one year. Other officer's term of office is two years. The President is eligible for re-election but not for the second consecutive term.
 - (ii) The term of office of all officers is from January 1 until December 31.

- (iii) When the need for supplementary officers arises, the President may nominate a candidate subject to approval by the Board of Directors. The officer selected performs the tasks and serves the balance of the former officer's term.

Article 21: Supplementary Staff

- (i) The Society is entitled to have editorial staff and other professional committee members as well as regional representatives.
- (ii) The professional staffs are nominated by the President from among members, subject to approval by the Board of Directors.
- (iii) The regional representatives are nominated by the President from members not belonging to major participating countries, subject to approval of Board of Director.

Chapter 5: Meetings

Article 22: There are Annual General Meetings, Board Meetings, Secretariat Meetings, Regional Secretariat Meetings, Editorial Committee Meetings, and other Meetings in their respective areas of expertise and jurisdiction.

Article 23: The Annual General Meeting is to be held regularly once a year, presided over by the President. The President may also summon emergency meetings.

Article 24: The Annual General Meeting convenes full members, life members, honorary members, and student members.

Article 25: A decision at the Annual General Meeting should be decided upon by the majority of the members present. In case of equal votes, the Chairperson of the meeting is entitled to cast the deciding vote.

Article 26: The Chairperson of the Annual General Meeting is the President.

Article 27: The General Meeting may decide on any change in the Society's Constitution, approve its activity reports, settlement of account, activity, and budget plans as well as important affairs of the Society.

Article 28: In case of an emergency a decision which is normally made at the Annual General Meeting, could be made by the President along with the office of the Secretariat. Approval of this decision must be obtained at the next Annual General Meeting.

Article 29: The Board of Directors, consists of the President, Vice Presidents, Directors and Secretary General.

Article 30: The Chairperson of the Board is the President.

- Article 31:** The Board of Directors decides on all important subjects to be presented and approved at the Annual General Meeting.
- Article 32:** The quorum for the meeting of the Board of Directors should be more than 1/3 of the members. Voting by proxy may be permitted.
- Article 33:** A decision of the Board of Directors will be by the majority present. In case of equal votes, the Chairperson is entitled to cast the deciding vote.
- Article 34:** Members at a Secretariat Meeting consist of the President, Secretary General, Vice Presidents, and Directors from the countries where Secretariat is located as well as the regional secretary. One of the Directors serves as the Treasurer.
- Article 35:** The Chairperson at the Secretariat Meeting is the President.
- Article 36:** The Secretariat Meeting is intended to execute the Society's routine work.
- Article 37:** A decision at the Secretariat Meeting is made by the majority present, except the regional secretary. In case of equal votes, the Chairperson is entitled to cast the deciding vote.
- Article 38:** Members at a Regional Secretariat Meeting consist of the Vice Presidents, Directors, Editorial Committee Members, as well as the regional secretary. One of the Directors serves as a Treasurer.
- Article 39:** The Regional Secretariat Meeting conducts such business as recruiting new members, collecting fees, encouraging the contribution of articles to the journal and providing a plan for the election of Vice Presidents and Directors from the country for the next term and organizing the Annual General Meeting, if selected as host country.
- Article 40:** Chairperson of the Editorial Committee is appointed by the President for the publication of the Society's journal.
- Article 41:** The Chairperson of the professional committee is appointed by the President for the publication of the Society's journal.

Chapter 6: Accounting

- Article 42:** The Society's fiscal year is from October 1 to September 30 of the following year.
- Article 43:** Expenditures of the Society are to be met from membership fees and other sources of income.

Chapter 7: Change in the Society's Constitution

Article 44: Any change in the Society's Constitution will be done by the by the due process described in Article 27 and 31.

Chapter 8: Supplementary Rules

Article 45: By laws of the Society's Constitution are determined separately subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

LIST OF SUPPLEMENTARY RULES

1. The Constitution of the Society will come into force from November 7, 1994.
2. The officers for the establishment of the Society will be elected at the Promoter's Meeting and not according to the articles contained in the Constitution. This is to be approved at the founding Annual General Meeting. The terms of office of such officers shall be until December 31, 1996. Only the first President's term of office will continue for an indefinite period until the Society's activities are in full operation.
3. Activity and budget plans for the year of the Society's establishment are to be decided at the Promoter's Meeting and to be approved at the Founding Annual General Meeting.
4. The year 1995 will serve as the test period for the by-laws of the Constitution, editorial regulations, regulations on contributions to the publication, editorial office work, regulations on commendations etc. Publication of the journal will be limited to the Proceeding and a Special Issue to inaugurate the establishment of the Society. The actual publication of the journal containing scientific articles contributed by members will begin in 1996.

Appendix

Agricultural sciences in the broadest sense will cover the following areas:

Agronomy, Plant Science, Horticulture, Fishery, Agricultural Chemistry, some aspects of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Forestry, Zoo technical Science, Veterinary Medicine, Fisheries Science, Agricultural Engineering, Food Processing, some aspects of Civil Engineering and Multidisciplinary Engineering, Agricultural Policy and Agricultural Economics, Rural Sociology, Bioresources Science together with many related and interdisciplinary science like Environmental Science, Earth Science, Geography, Cultural Anthropology and Human Ecology in addition to basic sciences like Chemistry and Basic Biological Sciences.