



INTERNAL REGULATIONS

ARTICLE 1 MEMBERS

1. The members of the CMAS shall be the national federations or organizations of any kind, accepted by the General Assembly, as being representative organizations for the underwater activities and/or sport in general in the country of that national federation or organization.
2. Only one national federation shall be admitted to membership for each country. However, the Board of Directors ("**BoD**") may exceptionally grant provisional exemptions from this rule for a period not exceeding two years, and paragraph 4 hereinafter shall apply.
3. Without prejudice of paragraph 2 above, to the end of promoting CMAS activities, CMAS BoD may recognize entities (irrespective of the way they are known) carrying on activities in underwater in the relevant country of establishment, provided that the requirements for affiliation of national federations are complied with by such entities. In this event, the following paragraph 4 applies.
4. In those countries where more than one federation or otherwise named entities are recognized by or affiliated to CMAS, these federations/entities shall organize a Steering Committee, with the scope of having a unified representation within CMAS.
5. The Steering Committee provided for in paragraph 4 shall be lead and chaired by the president of the national federation/entity having either the oldest membership with CMAS or the largest number of active members (including legal persons and individuals) carrying on activities within the sectors of CMAS, upon appointment of the CMAS Board of Directors. The chairman of the Steering Committee shall participate in the General Assemblies of CMAS with the right and duty to intervene with voting right in representation of all national federations/entities in that country. Such a provision is without prejudice of the right of each federation to elect the president of the committees in which they exercise activities and are affiliated with CMAS accordingly.

6. CMAS shall promote and facilitate the formation of the steering committees provided for in paragraph 4 above with the aim of facilitating the merger of such multiple federations in one national member federation per country within a reasonable time frame to be set by the Board of Directors.
7. National federations may be formed as a conglomerate of entities, provided that:
 - a. Each entity carries out actual activities in at least one of the sport disciplines or underwater activities (either technical, sport or scientific) in which CMAS is active and are recognized by CMAS accordingly;
 - b. Each entity has the basic requirements to be recognized by the CMAS and undertakes to comply with the rules governing CMAS;
 - c. The conglomerate resulting from the merger or gathering of multiple entities appoints only one representative with voting rights in the name and behalf of each entity at the General Assemblies of the CMAS, without prejudice of the of the right of each entity to elect the president of the committees in which they eventually exercise activities and are affiliated with CMAS accordingly.

ARTICLE 2 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. The application for membership shall be signed by the authorized representatives of the applicant federation and sent to the registered office of the CMAS either in hardcopy or softcopy (by e-mail).
2. The application must be accompanied by a file containing at least the following elements:
 - a. a formal statement that the applicant federation, on the condition of its admission, shall accept, apply and comply with CMAS Statutes and Regulations;
 - b. the text of the statutes and all regulations of the applicant federation;
 - c. a detailed report on the structures and underwater activities and sport of the country concerned;
 - d. a list of unions or associations to which the applicant federation is already affiliated, as well as the conglomerate which the belong to pursuant to the clause 1.5 above;
 - e. the composition of the management committee or equivalent

- body;
- f. the official address for correspondence;
 - g. the identity of persons empowered to sign correspondence.
3. The application for membership and its annexes shall be drawn up in one of the official languages of the CMAS.
 4. The federations shall inform the CMAS about every amendment in the data referred to in points b, d, e, f, and g of paragraph 2 above as soon as possible.
 5. The BoD shall periodically review the actual permanence of the requirements for the maintenance of the affiliation to or recognition by CMAS in respect of all national federations or entities already affiliated to or recognized by CMAS and shall resolve accordingly also pursuant to the Article 4 of the Statutes. I
 6. The BoD shall review the actual permanence of the requirements for a national federation/entity to keep on presiding the Steering Committee provided for in article 1 to the end of guaranteeing the widest and most actual representativity within the governance bodies of CMAS.

ARTICLE 3 GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF CMAS

1. The General Assembly is the general meeting of members and the highest authority of the CMAS. Its powers and functions are regulated by Clause 7 of the Statutes.
2. At least one day before the opening of the General Assembly, the BoD appoints the Committee of the Scrutinizers which shall have the task of reviewing and registering the identity and the representative powers of the members of each delegation.
3. The members of the Committee of the Scrutinizers shall be chosen between the members of the disciplinary bodies of the CMAS and of the past committees in order to guarantee the continuity of expertise in such activity. In no event, the members of the Committee may be granted proxies or vest the position of delegates at the General Assembly of CMAS, or be members of the both the BoD of CMAS and of any Continental Confederation.
4. Members of delegations admitted by the Committee may not be replaced during the General Assembly.
5. The BoD shall adopt the Proxy Form to be sent out together with the notice convening the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 4 PERMANENT COMMITTEES

1. Without prejudice of the powers of the Board of Directors to set up as many committees and sub-committees as necessary for the proper functioning of the CMAS, the following Committees shall however be permanent:
 - a. Technical Committee, competent in diving standards and education;
 - b. Sport Committee, competent in CMAS sport disciplines, and
 - c. Scientific and Sustainability Committee, competent for marine and underwater world preservation.
2. Each Permanent Committee shall be presided over by a chairman elected by the General Assembly every four years. Only federations or recognized entities forming part of affiliated conglomerates carrying on actual activity in the fields of the Permanent Committees shall be admitted to vote. Chairmen of the Permanent Committees shall be members of the Board of Directors of CMAS and shall be elected by the General Assembly soon after the elections of the President of CMAS and of the members of the BoD.
3. For the election of the Chairman of each Permanent Committee, the candidate, who obtain the largest number of votes shall be elected. In case of an equality of votes, a runoff election of the tied candidates will be carried out and the candidate who obtains the largest number of votes shall be elected. If there is only one candidate for each Permanent Committee, the candidates shall be automatically elected without voting.
4. Individuals willing to submit their candidacy as chairman of to a Permanent Committee shall:
 - a. be a member of a federation active in the field of the Permanent Committee for which the candidacy is submitted;
 - b. submit a presentation to the elective general assembly outlining their program and the relevant commitments in respect of the activity of the Permanent Committee they wish to chair.
5. The election of the presidents of the Permanent Committees shall be held soon after the election of the president of CMAs and before the election of the members of the BoD. The Agenda of the elective General Assembly shall reflect and comply with this rule

6. Each Permanent Committee shall be delegated by the Board of Directors with the tasks and targets consistent with their scope and, upon resolution of the Board of Directors, shall be formed of no less than three (3) and no more than twelve (12) members, appointed every four years soon after each elective general assembly by the Board of Directors between those individuals endorsed by their relevant federation to such position. Only federations or recognized entities forming part of affiliated conglomerates carrying on actual activity in the fields of the Permanent Committees may endorse the candidature to membership of the Permanent Committees.
7. Endorsements shall be received by CMAS Secretariat at least one week prior to the opening of the relevant elective General Assembly, and shall be in writing and outline the profile of the candidate and the actual activity carried out in the field of competence of the relevant Permanent Committee.
8. The BoD has full discretion in the appointment of the members of the Permanent Committee but shall consider the endorsements in choosing the members.