

**STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
FOR BIOSPHERE RESERVES**

**Article 1**

An International Advisory Committee for Biosphere Reserves, hereinafter referred to as the Committee, is hereby established in accordance with the Work Plan for sub-programme II.2.3 in the Draft Programme and Budget for 1992-93 (26 C/5).

**Article 2**

1. The Committee shall advise the Director-General on scientific and technical matters concerning the designation, evaluation and management of biosphere reserves as well as the development, operation and monitoring of the international network which they constitute.
2. In the performance of its task, the Committee shall be guided by the Recommendations of the International Co-ordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme and by the Action Plan for Biosphere Reserves adopted by the General Conference at its 23<sup>rd</sup> session under resolution 10.1.

**Article 3**

- 1 The Committee shall be composed of twelve members, serving in a personal capacity. The members shall be appointed by the Director-General, after consultation with the Member States and or the National Committees for the Man and the Biosphere Programme of the countries concerned.
2. The terms of office of members shall be four years. Terms of office of members may be renewed. The Director-General, in appointing the first members of the Committee, shall designate six members whose first term of office shall cease two years after their appointment. In event of death or resignation of a member of the Committee, the Director-General shall appoint a replacement for the remainder of the term.
3. The members of the Committee shall be selected for their scientific qualifications and for their experience in promoting and implementing the concept of biosphere reserve. Special attention shall be given to the inclusion of women. Membership of the Committee shall be in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical representation and take account of the biogeographical diversity of the world.
4. In addition to the twelve members mentioned above, the Director-General may invite to sessions of the Committee, as consultant-observers, persons who by reason of their functions or knowledge can assist the Committee in its work.

5. Representatives of the United Nations Environment Programme, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the International Council for Science and the World Conservation Union (IUCN) shall be invited to participate in the sessions of the Committee without right of vote.

#### **Article 4**

1. The Director-General shall normally convene the Committee once a year.
2. Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.
3. The Committee shall adopt its own Rules of Procedure that shall be submitted to the Director-General for approval.

#### **Article 5**

At each of its sessions, the Committee shall elect a chairperson, two vice-chairpersons, and a rapporteur, who shall form the Bureau of the Committee and who shall remain in office until the following session.

#### **Article 6**

The travel and subsistence expenses of the members of the Committee, as referred in paragraph 1 of Article 3, shall normally be borne by UNESCO, in accordance with the provisions of its travel rules.

#### **Article 7**

1. The Director-General shall designate members of the UNESCO Secretariat to represent him/her on the Committee and its Bureau.
2. The Secretariat of the Committee shall be provided by the Secretariat of UNESCO.

#### **Article 8**

1. The agenda for the sessions of the Committee shall be drawn up by the Director-General.
2. After each session, the Committee shall present a report on its work and its recommendations to the Director-General. The Director-General shall inform the Executive Board and the International Co-ordinating Council of the MAB Programme of the results of the Committee's proceedings.

#### **Article 9**

The Executive Board may terminate the mandate and amend the Statutes of the Committee on its own initiative, or following proposals of the Director-General.

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