

MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

CONSTITUTION*

Name of the Association

ARTICLE 1 : The Association shall be called THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF INDIA.

Purpose and Activities

ARTICLE 2 : The object of the Association shall be to create among its members an active interest in the field of marine biological and allied marine sciences: (a) by organising lectures, symposia and seminars on specific subjects, (b) by offering requisite informations to research workers and students undergoing training in marine biological sciences, (c) by publishing a journal, which shall be called the JOURNAL OF THE MARINE BIOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF INDIA, (d) by issuing occasional Memoirs and Monographs, (e) by instituting fellowships and studentships to research workers at the various recognised institutions, (f) by sponsoring and aiding expeditions and (g) by instituting prizes to be awarded in recognition of outstanding contributions towards the advancement of the marine biological sciences from the research workers of India, as funds permit.

The Executive Council shall decide from time to time any other means of promoting the cause of the marine biological and cognate sciences in India.

Members and privileges

ARTICLE 3 : Membership of the Association shall be open to all persons interested in marine sciences.

ARTICLE 4 : The membership of the Association shall consist of the following categories:

(a) Patrons : The Patrons shall be distinguished persons holding the rank and status of Governors of States or Ministers of the Union or the State Governments or Vice-Chancellors of Universities.

(b) Benefactors : A Benefactor shall be a person/institution subscribing a sum of Rupees Three thousand or more.

(c) Donors : A Donor shall be a person/institution subscribing a sum of Rupees Five hundred or more.

*Incorporating Amendments and resolutions until December 1986.

(d) Honorary Members : Honorary Members shall be persons of eminence by their contribution to marine biological and allied marine sciences. There shall not be at any time more than five Honorary Members and not more than one shall be elected each year except during the first year.

(e) Corresponding Members : Corresponding Members shall be eminent scientists residing outside India who are likely to promote the aims and objectives of the Association. There shall not be at any time more than 20 Corresponding Members. In the first year not more than such members shall be elected and in subsequent years not more than two shall be elected annually.

(f) Ordinary Members : Persons or Institutions interested in marine biological sciences are eligible for ordinary membership. Persons who apply for membership during the first year are automatically admitted as Foundation Members whereas applications of all persons for membership thereafter shall be recommended by two members in good standing.

ARTICLE 5 : The annual subscription for Ordinary Members residing in India shall be Rs. 30.00 (Rupees thirty only) and in the case of members residing outside India shall be Rs. 150.00 (Rupees one hundred and fifty only) payable in one instalment. Institutional membership subscription shall be Rs. 150.00 (Rupees One hundred and Fifty only) in India and Rs. 300.00 (Rupees Three hundred only) outside India. The entrance fee for Ordinary Members joining the Association after the first year of its inception shall be Rs. 10.00 (Rupees Ten only) in India and Rs. 15.00 (Rupees fifteen only) outside India.

ARTICLE 6 : Ordinary members may become Life Members upon payment of Rs. 500.00 (Rupees Five hundred only) for members residing in India or Rs. 1000.00 (Rupees One Thousand only) for members residing outside India. Life Membership subscription may be paid either in lump sum or in instalments within a year from the time of their application for Life Membership provided that any Ordinary Member who has some years standing in the Association may be allowed a rebate at the rate of half the annual subscription paid.

ARTICLE 7 (a) : Ordinary Members and Life Members may become the Benefactors or Donors by paying the difference in subscription between the two types of membership.

(b) When an Ordinary Member desires to become a Benefactor or Donor a rebate of the same rate will be allowed as in Article 6.

ARTICLE 8 : Patrons, Honorary Members and Corresponding Members shall be exempt from payment of entrance fee or subscriptions.

ARTICLE 9 : The Association may accept any financial contributions from persons or institutions.

ARTICLE 10 : The financial year of the Association shall be the same as the calendar year.

The annual subscription of membership shall be paid before the end of the third month (March) of each year. A member whose subscription is in arrears shall be excluded from the privileges of the Association until the arrears are paid. If the arrears are paid within two years after the membership has ceased, no entrance fee shall be charged, but when the arrears are paid after a period of two years, but not later than five years, one half of the entrance fee shall be collected. Full entrance fee shall be charged for the renewal of the membership after a lapse of five years.

ARTICLE 11 : When a member relinquishes his or her membership the Association shall not be liable to return any subscription that may have been paid before the date of withdrawal of membership.

ARTICLE 12 : Patrons, Benefactors, Donors and all other categories of members shall receive a copy of the Journal free of cost.

ARTICLE 13 : All members shall be entitled to receive the publications of the Association other than the Journal at concessional rates.

ARTICLE 14 : The Headquarters of the Marine Biological Association of India shall be at Cochin.

Executive Council

ARTICLE 15 : The Association shall be administered by a President, two Vice-Presidents, a Secretary, a Treasurer, an Editor of the Journal and six members. Either the President or one of the Vice-Presidents, the Secretary and the Treasurer shall be residents at the Headquarters of the Association. The Secretary with the approval of the Executive Council shall appoint an Associate Secretary to help him. In the absence of the Secretary in any meeting of the Executive Council, the Associate Secretary will be co-opted and his presence shall count towards the required quorum. The Treasurer with the approval of the Executive Council shall appoint an Associate Treasurer to help him. In the absence of the Treasurer in any meeting of the Executive Council the Associate Treasurer will be co-opted and his presence shall count towards the required quorum. The Associate Secretary and the Associate Treasurer shall be resident at the Headquarters of the Association.

At least five members to the Executive Council shall be from the Headquarters of the Association.

CONSTITUTION

ARTICLE 16 : The term of office of all members of the Executive Council shall be three years*. Members of the said Council shall be elected by members of good standing by means of a secret ballot and the nominee shall have standing as a member of the Association at least for a period of three consecutive years prior to the nomination and the nomination shall contain the concurrence of the nominee. The office-bearers elected by the Executive Council shall hold office for a period of one year and they shall be eligible for re-election.

ARTICLE 17 : Any interim vacancies on the Executive Council shall be filled by the said Council, but the persons so appointed shall hold office till the next Annual General Body Meeting, when fresh elections shall be conducted for filling such vacancies, provided it has at least seven members holding office. The Vice-President shall act as the President in the event of the latter relinquishing the post. In case of long and continued absence of any of the resident office-bearers, the Executive Council shall nominate persons to act in the respective offices until the return of the regular incumbents or the next general elections, whichever is earlier.

ARTICLE 18 : The Editor with the approval of the Executive Council shall constitute an Editorial Committee of himself and two Associate Editors. One Associate Editor shall be a resident at the Headquarters of the Association. In the absence of the Editor in any meeting of the Executive Council, the Associate Editor at Headquarters will be co-opted and his presence shall count towards the required quorum. The Editorial Committee, like the Executive Council, shall hold office for three years.

ARTICLE 19 : Notice of the Annual Meeting shall be sent to Members at least fifteen days before the Meeting and the time, place and agenda for discussion shall be fixed by the Executive Council. Elections to the Executive Council shall be by a secret ballot system exercised by Life and Ordinary Members of the Association from India.

ARTICLE 20 : (a) Application for the formation of a local branch shall be considered by the Executive Council provided there are at least five members desirous of forming a branch.

(b) Not more than one branch shall be permitted in each town and no branch shall be permitted to act in a way which shall go against the declared objects or the dignity of the Association.

(c) Each local branch shall elect a Chairman, Secretary and such other office-bearers as decided by the members of the branch.

*This would be without prejudice to the resolution passed at the Annual General Body Meeting held in February 1964, viz. 'In recognition of the services rendered to the Marine Biological Association of India from its very inception, Dr. S. Jones, the present President of the Association is elected as Life President of the Association'.

(d) The local branch may raise funds either by donation or by any local activity. Such funds shall belong to that branch and shall be managed by the office-bearers of that branch.

(e) The local branch may enroll *bonafide* students as student members of the branch. The only privileges of the student members shall be to participate in the meetings and functions of the Association. The annual subscription for the student members shall be fixed by the local branch.

(f) The branch Secretary shall send to the resident Secretary periodical reports of the activity of the branch giving the names of the members and office-bearers, the number and dates of meetings held, the papers read at meeting, etc. An annual statement of accounts duly audited by the local branch shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Association after the end of the financial year.

General Provisions

ARTICLE 21 : All sums of money received by way of donations and contributions from various sources and subscription from the members shall be constituted into a General Fund of the Association and it shall be used for the cause of the Association either with the approval not less than three-fourth of the members of the Executive Council or with the approval of the majority of the members present at the General Body Meeting.

ARTICLE 22 : The accounts of the Association shall be checked and verified annually by a committee of two persons appointed by the Executive Council and audited by a registered accountant. The Treasurer or in his absence the Associate Treasurer shall present the audited statement of accounts to the members at the following General Body Meeting.

ARTICLE 23 : If the members wish to amend the Constitution notice shall be given in writing to the Secretary with a draft on the proposed amendment under the signatures of not less than 10 members which shall then be circulated to all members at least one month before the next Annual General Body Meeting and thereafter it shall be placed before the said meeting for discussion. If two-thirds of the members present at the Annual General Body Meeting, vote in favour of the proposed amendment it shall be duly given effect to.

ARTICLE 24 : The Annual General Body Meeting will be held ordinarily between March 15 and April 15. No travelling allowance or daily allowance shall be given to any office-bearer or member of the Association for attending the General Body Meeting or any other meeting of the Association.

Regulations

I. The President on the recommendation of the Executive Council shall invite such distinguished persons as stated in Article 4 to become the Patrons.

II. During the first year the Honorary and Corresponding Members shall be nominated by the members of the Executive Council and each member shall propose not more than one name against each category of the Honorary Membership. The nominations shall be received by the Secretary not later than 31st January 1959. The Honorary Members and Corresponding Members shall be elected by a majority of not less than three-fourths of the Members of the Executive Council. The number of such Honorary members shall be within the limits stated in Article 4 (d) and (e) of the Constitution.

In the subsequent years the elections of the Honorary Members and the Corresponding Members shall be conducted in the same manner as in the first year except that the nominations shall be received by the Secretary till 30th June of each year and the results of the election by the Executive Council shall be confirmed by the members of the General Body at the next Annual Meeting.

III. The Executive Council shall incur all items of expenditure including the publication of the Journal from the General Funds of the Association. On any special items of expenditure exceeding Rs. 500 (Rupees Five Hundred) excluding the publication of the Journal, Memoirs and Monographs, the approval of the General Body shall be obtained before such expenditure is incurred. During the course a year the Treasurer shall not incur expenditure exceeding a sum of Rs. 200 (Rupees Two hundred) excluding purchase of stationery articles and cost of postage, on items for which it is not possible to obtain the prior approval of the Executive Council.

An appropriate sum of money, the actual amount to be decided by the Executive Council, be set apart as fixed deposit in some well established bank/banks and the interest on the above sum shall be utilised for purposes of the Association only. If in any year the interest is not utilized, the same shall be added to the corpus of the fund.