

STATUTES
of the
SWISS SOCIETY FOR BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING

ART. 1: NAME, HEADQUARTERS

- 1.1. The Swiss Society for Biomedical Engineering (die Schweizerische Gesellschaft für Biomedizinische Technik, la Société suisse de génie biomédical), hereinafter referred to as "SSBE", is an association within the meaning of Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code, with its office at the place of residence of the SSBE treasurer.

ART. 2: PURPOSE

- 2.1. The SSBE aims to promote contact, exchange of information and experience, as well as cooperation between representatives of industry, academia, health care providers, and research who deal with the use of methods and concepts of natural sciences, engineering and informatics, under the broad domain of biomedical engineering.
- 2.2. The SSBE supports and participates in postgraduate training and academic teaching, research and development, innovation and other activities as long as these align with the above-mentioned purpose.
- 2.3. The SSBE can decide to join or collaborate with other societies or organizations, as long as it aligns with its objectives.

ART. 3: MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1. Any natural or legal person who is interested in the purposes (Art. 2) and who meets the conditions below can become a member of the SSBE.
- 3.2.1. Individual members, i.e. natural persons who are divided into:
- Active members who work (or have worked) in the field of biomedical engineering and/or have earned a degree in biomedical engineering or related field, and want to contribute to promoting the purposes of the SSBE (Art. 2).
 - Honorary members who have made a significant contribution to the SSBE or to the field promoted by the SSBE.
- 3.2.2. Collective members, i.e. legal persons who recognize and support the purposes of the SSBE.

ART. 4: ADMISSION

- 4.1. Applications for membership must be sent to the office of the society in writing. An electronic (e-mail) submission is permitted. Candidates for active membership require the names of two active members who support their application.
- 4.2. The board examines the applications and proposes the candidates to the general assembly.
- 4.3. The general assembly decides on admission.

- 4.4. The rejection of an application does not require any justification and cannot be appealed.

ART. 5: WITHDRAWAL AND EXCLUSION

- 5.1. Withdrawal from the association can be declared by sending a notification to the office, respecting three months' notice to the end of the calendar year. An electronic (e-mail) notification is permitted.
- 5.2. The board is authorized to exclude members from the association who, despite a notification, violate their financial or other membership obligations, or work against the interests of the association. The exclusion decision can be made by electronic (e-mail) vote. The exclusion decision can only be made with an absolute majority of all board members. The exclusion decision can be appealed at the general assembly.
- 5.3. Resignation and exclusion do not release the member from the fulfillment of existing financial obligations for the current financial year.

ART. 6: ORGANS

The organs of the SSBE are:

- the General Assembly;
- the Board;
- the Committees;
- the Audit Body.

ART. 7: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

- 7.1. The ordinary general assembly of the SSBE is convened at least once a year. The assembly is called in writing, stating the agenda, at least three weeks before the meeting date. An electronic (e-mail) announcement of the assembly is permitted.
- 7.2. Extraordinary general assemblies are called by decision of the board or upon the request of one fifth of the members entitled to vote. This request must be made in writing to the president. An electronic (e-mail) communication of this request is permitted. The extraordinary general assemblies must be held within six weeks of receiving the request.
- 7.3. Items that are not expressly mentioned in the agenda can only be voted on if a motion has been submitted to the president in writing at least one week before the general assembly and sent to the members by the board. An electronic (e-mail) communication of this motion is permitted.
- 7.4. Individual members, active and honorary members are entitled to vote.
- 7.5. Collective members are granted a specific number of votes that is determined upon admission. They are represented in the general assembly by a maximum number of delegates equal to their allotted number of votes.
- 7.6. The general assembly takes its decisions and holds its elections by open vote and, subject to Art. 5.2. and 14, by a simple majority. A secret ballot can be ordered by majority decision. In the event of a tie, the president decides. Voting by written ballot is permitted.

7.7. The general assembly has the following powers:

- Approval of the annual accounts and discharge of the association's bodies.
- Election of the president and the other board members, i.e. the vice-president, the treasurer, other board members.
- Decision on honorary membership.
- Setting of membership fees.
- Admission of members proposed by the board.
- Setting the number of votes of collective members.
- Drawing up guidelines for the activities of the SSBE.
- Decision on all matters referred to it by the board.
- Decision on applications from members, in particular on appeals against exclusion decisions by the board.
- Amendment of the statutes.
- Dissolution of the SSBE.

ART. 8: BOARD

- 8.1. The board consists of a minimum of 4 members, namely the president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.
- 8.2. The term of office of the board is 2 years. Re-election is permitted.
- 8.3. The board has a quorum if at least half of its members are present. It passes its resolutions with a simple majority of those present. In the event of a tie, the president decides. The board can also pass its resolutions by electronic (e-mail) vote; such resolutions require a two-thirds majority of the board members.

8.4. The president, or in his or her absence, the vice president, convenes and chairs the board meetings and general assemblies. He/She oversees the execution of the SSBE's resolutions and represents the association externally. The following board members have legally binding signatures: the president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer.

8.5. The board manages the association, draws up the work program and decides on all matters that do not fall within the competence of the general assembly or another body.

ART. 9: OFFICE

9.1. The board determines the location of the office. The office is usually located at the treasurer's place of residence.

ART. 10: COMMITTEES

- 10.1. The board can appoint permanent or temporary committees to study and discuss issues that affect the SSBE's field of activity. It defines their tasks and powers.
- 10.2. The committees regularly report to the board on their activities and submit proposals.

ART. 11: AUDIT BODY

11.1. The board appoints an audit body for a two-year term of office, which consists of two auditors; they are eligible for re-election.

11.2. Each year, the auditing body submits a written report to the general assembly on the annual accounts and the results of its auditing activities.

14.3. If the association is dissolved, its assets must be used for a purpose that aligns with its purpose.

ART. 12: FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Adopted by the general assembly on 10.09.2025

12.1. The financial year corresponds to the calendar year.

12.2. The association's income consists of:

- membership fees
- other income, such as net income from events, donations and subsidies, and income from assets.

12.3. Contributions are collected in the first quarter of each calendar year. Members who join after July 1st pay half the annual contribution.

ART. 13: LIABILITY

13.1. Only the association's assets are liable for the debts of the SSBE, excluding the personal liability of the members.

ART. 14: FINAL PROVISIONS

14.1. A three-quarter majority of the votes cast is required for a change to the statutes.

14.2. The resolution to dissolve the association requires the same majority. It can only be passed at a general assembly specially convened for this purpose.