

## STATUTES

These statutes were approved by the General Assembly of the Swiss Society for Hydrology and Limnology (SSHL) in Zurich on October 9, 1996, and entered into force. Statutes were revised on November 4, 2020, via Zoom and Teams on November 2, 2022.

### Article 1

The «Swiss Society for Hydrology and Limnology» (SSHL) is an association within the meaning of Articles 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code.

The SSHL is the Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT) professional society. It acknowledges the statutes of the SCNAT.

### Article 2

The address of the secretariat is considered the registered office of the society.

### Article 3

The Swiss Society for Hydrology and Limnology (SSHL)

- aims to promote and coordinate basic research in hydrology and limnology and apply research results in practice and for environmental protection.
- promotes hydrological and limnological education and further education at universities and other institutions.
- maintains relationships with foreign and international hydrological and limnological organisations as well as bodies representing related areas.
- takes a stand on hydrological and limnological issues of public interest.
- carries out further activities as needed.
- coordinates its activities with other groups dealing with the water cycle, especially that of the Swiss Group of Hydrogeologists in the Swiss Geological Society.

The members of the SSHL strive to advise, support, and promote each other in their activities.

## SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITY

### Article 4

The SSHL organises:

- scientific conferences, seminars, colloquia, workshops
- further education courses
- excursions
- working group meetings

It promotes scientific discussion among members and between research and practice.

At least one event should take place annually.

The SSHL publishes the series «Contributions to the Hydrology of Switzerland» for the publication of scientific papers.

The SSHL particularly endeavours to inform its members about ongoing and completed work in hydrology and limnology.

## MEMBERSHIP

### Article 5

The SSHL consists of:

- individual members
- institutional members
- honorary members

Individual members are private individuals with a professional interest in hydrology or limnology. Persons in education (students, doctoral candidates) are individual members with a reduced membership fee.

Institutional members are legal entities such as companies, associations, foundations, scientific institutes, and public authorities dealing with hydrology or limnology. Institutional members are represented by a delegate.

Persons and institutions that have rendered outstanding services in hydrology or limnology or to the SSHL may be appointed honorary members.

### Article 6

Individual members and institutional members are admitted upon written application by the Board. Each member receives the statutes of the SSHL.

The General Assembly appoints honorary members upon proposal by the Board.

### Article 7

Statements of withdrawal must be submitted to the Board in writing. Members who have not paid their annual dues for two years may be expelled from the SSHL by the Board.

## FINANCING

### Article 8

The revenues of the SSHL consist of:

- the annual membership fees
- subsidies from the public sector and SCNAT
- donations and bequests
- interest on capital
- other income

The General Assembly determines the annual membership fees upon proposal by the Board. Honorary members do not pay membership fees.

The financial year of the SSHL corresponds to the calendar year.

## BODIES

### Article 9

The bodies of the SSL are:

- the General Assembly
- the Board
- the permanent editorial committee
- the working groups
- the auditors

### Article 10

The General Assembly takes place at least once a year and can be held physically or virtually. It is convened by the Board and chaired by the President. The invitation shall be sent out at least two weeks in advance, along with the agenda.

Items for the agenda can only be included at the request of the members if they have been submitted to the Board at least five weeks before the General Assembly.

No decisions can be made on matters not listed on the agenda.

The General Assembly is divided into:

1. a business part with the following duties:

- a) approval of the minutes
- b) election of the President of the SSL, the President of the permanent editorial committee, the other Board members, the heads of the working groups, and the auditors
- c) appointment of honorary members
- d) approval of the annual report and the annual financial statements
- e) approval of the auditor's report and proposal
- f) approval of the reports of the working groups
- g) approval of the work program and budget
- h) determination of membership fees
- i) determination of the location of the next General Assembly
- j) amendment of the statutes
- k) handling of other items on the agenda
- l) dissolution of the association

2. a scientific part.

### Article 11

Each member, institutional member, and honorary member has one vote at the General Assembly.

A simple majority of the members present make decisions at the General Assembly.

In case of a tie, the chairman decides. Voting and elections are usually conducted openly. At the request of 10 members present, voting or elections must be completed by secret ballot.

Minutes of the business conducted and decisions made at the General Assembly are drawn up by the secretaries and circulated to all members.

The board can conduct votes on proposals via correspondence.

An extraordinary general meeting will be convened by the board as needed or if 1/5 of the members request it.

## **Article 12**

The board consists of at least nine members:

- the President
- the Vice President
- a delegate of the hydrological commission
- the president of the editorial committee
- the German-speaking secretary
- the French-speaking secretary
- the treasurer
- and the board members.

Board members are elected for three years. The President cannot be re-elected directly after that. The other board members are eligible for re-election.

## **Article 13**

The tasks of the board include in particular:

- a) representing the SSHL externally.
- b) preparing the general assembly.
- c) compiling the annual report, financial statements, work program, and budget.
- d) implementing the decisions of the general assembly.
- e) handling changes in membership.
- f) organising scientific events according to Article 4.
- g) appointing delegates to national and international organisations and events.
- h) appointing members of the editorial committee.

Minutes of the matters discussed, and decisions made at board meetings are compiled by the secretaries and distributed to all board members.

The board decides autonomously on the following:

- expenses included in the budget
- expenses not included in the budget or exceeding the amounts therein, up to CHF 1'000 per case, but not exceeding CHF 2'000 per year.

## **Article 14**

The permanent editorial committee oversees the publication of the «Contributions to the Hydrology of Switzerland» series. Details are specified in the publication regulations.

## **Article 15**

The working groups address specific scientific tasks assigned to them by the general assembly or the board. They are formed ad hoc by their leaders. They annually report to the general assembly with any requests.

## **Article 16**

The audit committee consists of 2 auditors and a deputy. The audit committee reviews the annual financial statements and submits a report and proposal to the general assembly.

## **SIGNING AUTHORITY AND LIABILITY**

### **Article 17**

For the SSHL, any two board members and the managing director are authorised to sign collectively. For business matters, the individual signature of the President, Vice President, secretary, treasurer, or managing director is sufficient.

The association's assets are solely liable for its liabilities.

## AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES

### Article 18

Proposals for amendments to the statutes must be submitted to the board at least two months before the general assembly and included on the agenda.

Amendments to the statutes do not require a qualified majority.

## DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

### Article 19

A proposal for the dissolution of the SSHL must be submitted to the board at least two months before the general assembly and included on the agenda. If the general assembly approves the proposal, a written vote must be conducted among all members (postal vote). The SSHL is dissolved if at least 2/3 of all members support the proposal.

The use of the SSHL's assets is decided by the general assembly with the consent of at least 2/3 of the votes cast. Distribution of the assets among the members is excluded.

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The Vice President:

The Secretary:

Dr. Cristina Rachelly

Dr. Petra Schmockler-Fackel