

### Change of Member Association Representation

Presented by Constitution and Administrative Committee (CAC)

<p><b>Considerations for an agreed change of Member Association for a region or country</b></p>
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#### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The Executive Board has received an application for a change of Member Association (MA) where an existing MA is already affiliated.
- 1.2. The current MA has agreed to the change of representation.
- 1.3. EB tasked CAC to consider implications for the change, particularly noting directors endorsed relatively new provisions with respect to "Challenger" associations (*WP A.7.2.11 2023 refers – copy available on request*)

#### 2. DISCUSSION

- 2.1. The IFATCA Constitution and Administrative Manual (IAM) provides clear guidance for Associations seeking affiliation with the Federation in Article 2 of the Constitution specifying at pp 24 and 25 (in part):

*"2.1.1 Eligible for affiliation as a Member Association is any professional association, organization, or guild of air traffic control personnel whose technical objects are essentially the same as those of the Federation. Where such association, organization or guild includes members who are not air traffic controllers and have no direct connection with air traffic control, then individual membership of, and participation in, the affairs of the Federation shall be as specified in the Bye-Laws. (Toulouse 98.A.13)*

*2.1.2 An ATC association eligible for Professional membership is ineligible for Industry Partnership.*

*2.1.3 Only one association, organization or guild of air traffic control personnel may be accredited as a Member Association for an area of representation at any one time.*

- 2.1.4 Any applicant association, organization or guild of air traffic control personnel must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Directors that it actually represents, or has the possibility to represent, a majority of the air traffic controllers within its area of representation.
- 2.1.6 Affiliation of a prospective Member Association is subject to approval by a two thirds vote of the Directors.
- 2.1.7 **Where an applicant seeks affiliation from an area of representation in which the Federation already has a Member Association, acceptance of the application from the new organization by the Directors shall automatically cause termination of the affiliation of the existing Member Association.** (Buenos Aires 03.A.13)
- 2.1.8 Where an applicant seeks affiliation subsequent to termination or withdrawal of a Member Association in the same or similar area of representation, the Directors at Conference shall have the authority to require, or to waive, payment of the outstanding debt (in whole or in part) owed by the previous Member Association when considering their application for membership. (Tunis 96.A.27)
- 2.2. Further, the IAM specifies in Part 2 ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY (BYE-LAWS) Chapter 2, Section 2 (in part):

- 2.1.5 **Where the application is from a new association, organization or guild from an area in which the Federation already has a Member Association, the Executive Board or its nominee shall advise the Member Association that a challenge to its affiliation has been received. It is important that the Board endeavour to determine the facts of the situation, as the outcome of the application will largely be decided by the Directors' reliance on the information presented to them at Conference. The Board or its nominee may conduct any investigation they deem fit and may take into account any known factors which are relevant to the application.** (Buenos Aires 03.A.17)

*The working paper will contain a Draft Recommendation (either in the affirmative or the negative) being the Executive Board's recommendation to the Directors concerning the application. Given the provisions of Article II, paragraph 2.1.4, such an application will not normally be recommended unless the Member Association does not represent a majority of the controllers and the applicant can demonstrate that it is the representative body for the majority of the controllers in that area of representation. (Buenos Aires 03.A.17)*

- 2.1.6 The following guidelines are provided to the Executive Board for use when an application for membership is received from an organization in an area of representation where IFATCA already has a Member Association.
- 2.1.7 It is a fundamental feature of IFATCA that only one organization representing controllers can be accepted from any area of representation.

*Every application for membership from a professional organization must be presented to the Directors by the Executive Board with a recommendation for the Director's consideration.*

- 2.1.8 *When a challenger to an existing Member Association applies for membership, it brings the new applicant into conflict with the existing Member Association and accurate and factual information is essential to enable Directors to make a valid decision. An investigation must be conducted to assess the true facts of the situation. The Executive Board (or its nominee) has an obligation to identify the facts so the Directors have the best possible information to make a decision regarding the application by the new organization, which may result in the replacement of the existing Member Association.*
- 2.1.11 *Where doubt exists as to the underlying situation, preference should be given to the existing Member Association.*

### **3. CONCLUSION**

- 3.1. The change of a member association representing a country or region, **by agreement**, is unusual.
- 3.2. In consideration of the EB membership working paper, the new association is not considered as a “challenger” association.
- 3.3. Directors should consider the provisions of Article 2, para 2.1.8 with respect to outstanding debt (if applicable).

### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 4.1. That this paper be accepted for information only.

### **5. REFERENCES**

- 5.1. IAM Ver 70, August 2025  
5.2. WP A.7.2.11 Annual Conference 2023

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