

# ACADEMIA COLOMBIANA DE CIENCIAS EXACTAS, FÍSICAS Y NATURALES

(Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences)

## STATUTES

(Approved in the session of July 25, 2018)

### CHAPTER I: DEFINITION AND LEGAL NATURE

**Article 1.** The Academia Colombiana de Ciencias Exactas, Físicas y Naturales (Colombian Academy of Exact, Physical and Natural Sciences) (ACCEFYN), which hereafter will be called the Academy, is a scientific entity, under private law, governed by Colombian law, non-profit, with legal status and its own assets, with main domicile in the city of Bogotá, DC, with field of action in the Colombian territory. By virtue of the provisions of Article 1 of Law 34 of 1933, the Academy is a consultative body of the national government. The Academy is an institution made up of volunteer members, chosen by their own peers because of their contributions to scientific knowledge.

**Article 2.** The duration of the Academy will be one hundred years from the approval of these statutes, extendable for the term decided by the Assembly with the favorable vote of half plus one of its members with voice and vote.

### CHAPTER II: OBJECTIVES

**Article 3.** The Academy aims for the development of the exact, physical and natural sciences, their applications and their teaching.

**Article 4.** The Academy, maintaining its unity and its national character, will participate in the scientific development of the various regions of the country, for which it may create regional chapters whose organization and operation will be defined by the respective regulations.

**Article 5.** To fulfill its objectives, the Academy will recognize those who have stood out for their contributions to science; promote and support scientific research; will guide society on issues of national interest; It will contribute to the dissemination and appropriation of science as an element of culture and economic and social development, and it will cooperate in the improvement of the teaching of the exact, physical and natural sciences at the different levels of education.

**Article 6.** The Academy will propose to the government and state agencies actions and policies for scientific and academic development; It will strive for its members to represent it in science,

technology, innovation and education organizations; and as a consultative body it will attend to scientific inquiries and requests made by the aforementioned organizations.

**Paragraph.** The Academy may refrain from issuing concepts on issues that in its opinion are not strictly scientific in nature or when it considers that there are conflicts of interest.

**Article 7.** The Academy will establish and maintain relations, institutionally or through its members, duly delegated, with national and international, public and private entities of science, technology, innovation and education and will promote communication and exchange of academics with their peers from other communities and national and international scientific organizations.

**Article 8.** The Academy will develop participation mechanisms in the activities and programs of the National System of Science, Technology and Innovation. Likewise, it will collaborate with public and private entities in the construction and appropriation of scientific knowledge, as well as in the conservation, defense, and sustainable use of the country's natural resources.

**Paragraph.** To meet its objectives, the Academy may enter into agreements and contracts with public and private entities.

### CHAPTER III: INCOME AND EQUITY

**Article 9.** The patrimony of the Academy is made up of:

- a. Contributions from the nation, territorial entities and other public or private organizations, as well as the income obtained from contracts and the provision of services.
- b. Contributions or other assets from donations, foundations, or bequests that are expressly accepted by the board of directors.
- c. The movable or immovable property that is acquired.
- d. The Luis López de Mesa Library  
and the proceeds from the sale of the publications.
- f. The income received by the Academy for any concept.

**Paragraph.** The contributions made to the patrimony of the Academy by both its members and other public or private persons do not confer on the contributors any right to the patrimony of the Academy during its existence, nor do they empower them to intervene in its administration.

**Article 10.** The assets of the Academy may not be assigned to different destination for the fulfillment of the purposes indicated in **Article 3** of these statutes.

### CHAPTER IV: MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

**Article 11.** The members of the Academy are called **academics** and are elected in any of their categories by the assembly. The Academy is composed of full members, corresponding members and Honorary Members.

**Paragraph 1.** There are also the categories of institutional members and friends of the Academy.

**Paragraph 2.** The academic status is waivable.

**Article 12.** Scientists who have made significant contributions, who have been corresponding members for a minimum of four years, who have contributed to the training of new researchers and who have actively participated in the work of the Academy, may be full members.

**Paragraph.** Each member of number will be assigned a chair number. The number of seats for full members will be periodically evaluated by the board of directors, which will propose the corresponding actions to the assembly.

**Article 13.** National or foreign scientists, residents in Colombia or abroad, of exceptional merits, who have contributed to the scientific development of the country, may be corresponding members.

**Article 14.** Honorary Members of the Academy may be academics of a number who, in the opinion of the Academy, have stood out for the excellence of their work and their scientific merits and who, in the opinion of the assembly, deserve this highest distinction. National or foreign scientists of exceptional merit and high scientific hierarchy may also be declared Honorary Members of the Academy. Full members who are exalted to the Honorary Member category will preserve their chair number.

**Article 15.** The Academy may grant the title of institutional member to legal persons and institutions for their commitment to the development of Science, Technology, Education or innovation and that they assume the responsibility of contributing to the carrying out of activities of mutual interest agreed with the Academy.

**Article 16.** Institutions, companies or individuals who support the activities and development of the institution belong to the category of friends of the Academy.

## CHAPTER V: ON THE OBLIGATIONS AND RIGHTS OF ACADEMICS

**Article 17.** It is the duty of the academics to know and comply with the statutes and regulations of the Academy, contribute to the achievement of its objectives, attend the sessions, collaborate and participate in their tasks and activities, carry out those that are requested and cooperate in the maintenance of a climate of mutual respect among all members and staff of the Academy.

**Article 18.** All academics may participate in any of the Academy sessions and make use of its resources in accordance with the respective regulations. The Honorary Members, number and corresponding have the right to vote.

**Article 19.** Anyone who seriously maligns the dignity of the entity will lose the status of academic. The decision will be made by the assembly by prior concept of the board of directors.

## CHAPTER VI: THE ORGANIZATION AND DIRECTION OF THE ACADEMY

**Article 20.** The Academy will be directed and administered by the following bodies and authorities:

- a. The assembly, the highest governing body of the Academy, which is made up of all its members.
- b. The board of directors, whose president is the legal representative of the Institution.
- c. The regional chapters.
- d. The permanent thematic and management support commissions created on the recommendation of the assembly or the board of directors.

**Article 21.** The functions of the assembly are:

- a. Choose the members of the Academy
- b. Elect the members of the board of directors.
- c. Adopt the internal regulations of the entity.
- d. Ensure compliance with the statutes.
- e. Amend the statutes, a decision that must be taken in two different sessions with a maximum interval of sixty calendar days, approved at each meeting with the favorable vote of the simple majority of the members with the right to vote who have participated in the vote.
- f. Approve the financial statements as of December 31 of the previous year, the program of activities and the financial budget presented by the board of directors at the general assembly held within the first three months of the year.
- g. Approve the creation of regional chapters.
- h. Decide on the official statements of the Academy, at the proposal of the board of directors.

**Article 22.** Attendance at the assembly sessions may be in person or not in person; There will be non-attendance at the assembly when, through appropriate technologies, its members can deliberate and decide by simultaneous communication or participate with their vote in the decision-making of the Academy.

**Article 23.** The assembly will validly meet with a number of academics equal to or greater than 10% of the members with the right to vote. In meetings in which it is necessary to make decisions, the deliberative quorum will be constituted by a number equal to or greater than 15% of the members with the right to vote and decisions will be made by a simple majority of the academics who participated in the vote.

**Paragraph.** The annual Assembly referred to in literal **f** of **article 21** (Assembly Functions), will be called 15 days in advance, clearly indicating the place, date and time of initiation; the roster will be called at the indicated time; If the quorum is not completed at that time, there will be a half-hour wait; after half an hour, the list will be called again and a number of nine or more members present will constitute a quorum.

**Article 24.** The board of directors is the directive body of the Academy and is made up of the president, vice president, general secretary, the director of publications, the director of each

Chapter or his delegate who must be a member of the Chapter, and a former president elected by the former presidents. The president and vice president must be full or honorary members.

**Article 25.** The members of the board of directors will be elected in a session of the assembly prior to the Solemn Statutory Session, with a quorum of 15% of the members of the Academy with the right to vote. They will be elected for a period of three (3) academic years and may be re-elected in office for up to a maximum of two consecutive times. Voting will be done individually and by secret ballot, in accordance with the regulations approved by the board of directors. The candidates who obtain a number of favorable votes not less than half plus one of the votes cast will be elected. The members of the board may be removed when so requested by three-quarters of the members of the assembly.

**Article 26.** The functions of the board of directors are:

- a. Direct the entity,
- b. Prepare and approve their own regulations.
- c. Draft the general regulations of the Academy and submit it to the approval of the assembly
- d. Study the Academy's budget and submit it to the assembly for approval.
- e. Authorize expenses
- f. Create the positions it deems necessary for the fulfillment of the objectives of the Academy and set the corresponding salaries.
- g. Appoint the treasurer.
- h. Authorize the president to celebrate necessary acts and contracts in accordance with the regulations that are issued.
- i. Propose to the assembly the creation of regional chapters.
- j. Create and organize thematic commissions, as well as the institutional support commissions that are necessary.
- k. Facilitate the participation of academics in the Academy's decision-making (arts. 24 and 30). The board of directors will regulate such participation using appropriate technologies.
- l. Create and regulate the awards and distinctions that it deems appropriate for the achievement of its purposes.
- m. Comply with the other functions established by the present statutes, the internal regulations of the Academy and indicated by the assembly.
- n. Appoint temporary replacements on the Board of Directors when vacancies arise, until the position is filled in accordance with the regulations.
- o. Appoint the Institutional Members and the Friends of the Academy.

**Paragraph.** The Board of Directors will promptly inform the Academics about their intention to appoint institutional members or friends of the Academy.

**Article 27.** The members of the board of directors will take up their positions at the beginning of the period for which they were elected, in the Solemn Statutory Session that the Academy will hold each year.

**Article 28.** The president is the legal representative of the Academy and as such it corresponds to him to exercise the legal status of him. His functions are:

- a. Comply with and enforce the statutes and internal regulations of the Academy.
- b. Monitor and take care of the collection, investment and good management of the funds of the Academy
- c. Render periodic reports to the board of directors and to the assembly of the activities of the Academy.
- d. Present the annual budget of income and expenses to the board of directors.
- e. Submit for the approval of the board of directors the balance sheet and financial statements presented by the accountant.
- f. Preside over the sessions of the board of directors and the assemblies
- g. Appoint the director of the library and the director of the journal, whose functions will be specified in the regulations of the Academy.

**Article 29.** The vice president will replace the president in his temporary or absolute absences, with the same attributions that are indicated in article 29 and will fulfill those functions assigned by the board of directors.

**Article 30.** The general secretary shall have the following functions:

- a. Act as secretary of the assembly and of the board of directors,
- b. To summon the sessions of the assembly and the board of directors.
- c. Write the minutes of the board of directors and the assembly and authorize them with their signature.
- d. Issue the certificates issued by the institution. Together with the president, he or she signs the diplomas, the minutes and the distinctions that emanate from the board of directors and the assembly.
- e. Prepare an annual report on the activities of the Academy to be presented to the assembly in the Solemn Statutory Session.
- f. Any other function assigned by the board of directors or the assembly.

## CHAPTER VII: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

**Article 31.** The academic year will be counted from the day of the Solemn Statutory Session, defined in **Article 23**, until the day before the Solemn Statutory Session of the following calendar year.

**Article 32.** This statute will take effect on the date of its approval.

**Article 33.** In the event of dissolution, the funds and movable and immovable property of the corporation will become the property of a similar non-profit entity, chosen by the same Academy in a special session in which its termination is decided by approval of the 4/5 of the votes cast.

Bogotá, D.C., July 25, 2018

Enrique Forero  
President

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