

Bylaws current as of 2024	By-laws to be amended at the General Meeting ISH 2025
<p>Bylaws of The World Plumbing Council (WPC)</p> <p>Approved on 19 and 20 November 2007 at the Annual Meeting held in Tokyo, Japan. Amended on 7 September 2011 at the Annual Meeting held in Edinburgh, Scotland. Further amended on 21 October 2012 at the General Meeting held in Brisbane, Australia. Further amended on 15 March 2013 at the General Meeting held in Frankfurt, Germany. Further amended on 15 and 16 August 2013 at the General Meeting held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA. Further amended on 14 March 2015 at the General Meeting held in Frankfurt, Germany. Further amended on 17 October 2023 at the General Meeting held in Shanghai, China.</p>	<p>(...) <u>Supplement:</u></p> <p>Further amended on 18 March 2025 at the General Meeting held in Frankfurt, Germany.</p>
<p>ARTICLE 1 – Name – Term – Incorporation</p> <p>1 Under the name “World Plumbing Council” (WPC) is constituted an association, incorporated in accordance with Art. 60 et seq. of the Swiss Civil Code.</p> <p>2 Its Term is unlimited. The WPC is incorporated in Zurich.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE II – Objective</p> <p>1 The objective of the WPC is to unite the world plumbing industry to safeguard and protect the environment and the health of nations, for the benefit of all.</p> <p>2 To reach this objective, the Association shall undertake, among others, the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Develop and promote the image and standards of the plumbing industry world-wide. 	

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Encourage and facilitate the exchange of information, ideas and technology between plumbing industry organisations and their members world-wide.▪ Promote and provide assistance on matters concerning education and training in the plumbing industry, recognising the need for appropriate standards and their international recognition.▪ Create an awareness of the plumbing industry’s role in protecting the environment by the provision of water and sanitation through proper management, care, reuse, and conservation of natural resources.▪ Provide and share information regarding research projects and technology applicable to the plumbing industry and the people it serves.▪ Organise a WPC Conference at least every three years; to assure continued growth and membership development. <p>3 The modification of the Association’s objective cannot be imposed on any member of the Association.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE III – Membership Membership is available in three categories:</p> <p>1 <u>Full Members</u> are members which are bona fide representative organizations (including trade associations, professional bodies, trade unions, registration/licensing bodies and manufactures/wholesaler organisations) involved in the plumbing industry, support the objectives of WPC, and which have a right to vote at WPC General Meetings, except with respect to issues specified in Article XII of the Bylaws. Full Members must nominate their official representative in writing to exercise their vote.</p>	

<p>2 <u>Affiliate Members</u> are members which are other organizations or companies in the plumbing industry, which wish to be associated with and support the objectives of WPC but which have no vote at WPC General Meetings.</p> <p>3 <u>Individual Members</u> are members who are natural persons with an interest in the plumbing industry and support the objectives of WPC, but which have no vote at WPC General Meetings. Individual Members may include but not be limited to officers, members or employees of a Full or Affiliate Member</p>	<p>(...)</p> <p><u>Supplement:</u></p> <p>3 <u>Manufacturer Members</u> are members which are companies involved in the production of products intended for the plumbing industry and which support the objectives of the WPC but which have no vote at WPC General Meetings.</p> <p>4 <u>Individual Members (...)</u></p> <p>5 <u>Honorary Members</u> are members which are organizations, companies, or natural persons related to the plumbing industry which are appointed as Honorary members by decision of the Executive Board and which have no vote at WPC General Meetings.</p>
<p>ARTICLE IV – Resources of the Association</p> <p>The financial resources of the Association consist of:</p> <p>1 The assets of the Association and interest derived therefrom.</p> <p>2 The income from annual dues, which are collected, based on the category of membership. The Executive Board will fix the amount each year. Membership fees are due on January 1st each year and payable within thirty days of that date.</p> <p>3 The income derived from the activities organised by the Association (WPC Conference, publications, etc.).</p>	

<p>3 Gifts or legacies from members or third persons.</p> <p>4 The resources, property and income of the Association shall be applied solely towards furthering the objects of the Association and no part of those resources or income may be paid or otherwise distributed, directly or indirectly, to members of the Association, except in good faith in the promotion of those objects.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE V – Organisation</p> <p>1 The General Meeting consists of the Representatives of each organisation that is a member of the Association.</p> <p>2 The WPC has an Executive Board composed of not more than nine (9) Directors.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE VI – General Meeting</p> <p>1 The General Meeting is the supreme organ of the Association. A regular General Meeting shall be held at least once every year. The General Meeting may be held in hybrid or virtual form. In that case, all other provisions in these By-laws relating to the General Meeting will apply.</p> <p>2 In addition to the regular General Meeting, a General Meeting shall take place when necessary and, in addition, when at least one fifth of the Full members of the WPC so request.</p> <p>3 The General Meeting is composed of the Representatives of member organisations of the Association as well as the members of the Executive Board.</p>	

<p>4 The member organisations appoint a Representative for each General Meeting. New member organisations appoint their Representatives upon acceptance by the WPC of their application for membership.</p> <p>5 In the event that a member organisation’s official Representative is unable to attend a General Meeting, that member may be represented by a substitute Representative designated as official representative prior to the Meeting in writing (via fax, email or mail) to the Secretariat.</p> <p>6 Any resolution agreed by circular letter (by letter, email or electronic voting platform) by the majority of the Full members of the WPC has the same force and effect as if duly passed by a majority vote at a General Meeting.</p> <p>7 A quorum of twenty percent of all Full members is necessary to ratify a resolution at a General Meeting.</p> <p>8 A General Meeting shall be called at least 30 days in advance. The notification, sent to all members, shall indicate the agenda, the place and the date of the General Meeting. The notice shall also be deemed to have been served upon publication on the World Plumbing Council website.</p> <p>9 The General Meeting can decide on subjects, which have not been put on the agenda.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE VII – Competence of the General Meeting</p> <p>1 The General Meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– elects the Executive Board (each three years).	

<ul style="list-style-type: none">– exercises control over the Organs of the Associations.– discharges the Executive Board.– takes decisions upon affairs which have been submitted for approval by the Executive Board.– rules on the exclusion of members.– dismisses a Board Member, Officer or the Auditors.– modifies the Bylaws.– dissolves the Association or approves its merger. <p>2 Every third year, the General Meeting takes place together with the triennial World Plumbing Conference. This General Meeting has the exclusive power to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- elect the members of the Executive Board.– decide on the venue of the triennial meeting. <p>3 If this General Meeting cannot take place for whatever reason, the Executive Board may convene the General Meeting in hybrid or virtual form. This General Meeting shall then have the same exclusive powers. All other provisions in these By-laws relating to the General Meeting will apply.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE VIII – Executive Board</p> <p>1 The Executive Board is the executive Organ of the WPC. It has the general authority to control, manage and administer the affairs of the WPC.</p>	

2 The Executive Board:

- takes decisions on all Association matters not within the competence of another Organ of the Association.
- appoints an organisation to provide secretarial support services (“The Secretariat”).
- approves the admission of new members, consistent with the requirements of Article III.
- executes the decisions of the General Meeting.
- represents the Association vis-à-vis third parties.
- convenes the General Meeting.
- decides to convene the General Meeting in hybrid or virtual form.
- prepares the agenda of the General Meeting.
- may allow resolutions of the General Meeting to be passed by means of an electronic voting platform or in writing.
- can submit matters for the approval of the General Meeting.
- appoints a professionally qualified auditor to undertake an annual audit of the financial records of the association.

<p>3 The Executive Board is composed of a Chair, a Deputy Chair, an Honorary Secretary/Treasurer and six (6) other Directors.</p> <p>4 The Executive Board meets on the initiative of the Chair or that of two other Directors, as often as the business of the Association requires such a meeting, but at least once per year. Executive Board meetings must be notified at least 60 days in advance. Notification shall indicate the agenda, the place and the date of the meeting.</p> <p>5 The linking together by telephone or other electronic means of the Executive Board constitutes a meeting of the Board, provided 72 hours notice is given for such a meeting. All other provisions in these Bylaws relating to meetings of the Board will apply.</p> <p>6 At the beginning of each meeting, the Executive Board shall approve the minutes of the previous meeting and sign them.</p> <p>7 A quorum for Executive Board Meetings will consist of at least five (5) of the nine (9) Executive Board members.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE IX – Election of the Executive Board</p> <p>1 Each member of the Executive Board shall be elected for a three-year term and is eligible for re-election subject to nomination under (3) below.</p> <p>2 The members of the Executive Board are elected by a majority vote of country Representatives of the member organisations admitted to vote in accordance with Article XII of the Bylaws at the triennial General Meeting, which shall coincide with an international conference of the WPC.</p> <p>3 Nominations shall be submitted and dealt with in accordance with the WPC Policy Statement on Election of Board Members. The nominee shall be either a</p>	

<p>member or employee representative of the nominating Full Member. The nominating Full Member must pledge to pay the membership fees for the duration of the election period of the member of the Executive Board. If the Full Member does not pay the membership fee within a period of two months despite being requested to do so, the member of the Executive Board nominated by the Full Member shall automatically lose his/her office.</p> <p>4 In the event of a vacancy on the Executive Board between triennial meetings, the remaining members of the Executive Board shall notify all full WPC members in writing, at the earliest possible date, of the vacancy. Nominations for the position shall be submitted to the Executive Board within thirty days of notifications. The Executive Board will then establish a list of candidates and send a ballot to each country representative as defined in Article XII of these Bylaws. This ballot shall be returned within twenty days to the Executive Board. The new member of the Executive Board is determined by the majority of ballots received. His term shall begin immediately and last for the remainder of the original term until the next triennial General Meeting.</p> <p>5 In the event a General Meeting or a Triennial Conference cannot be held, members of the Executive Board shall remain in office after the expiry of the term of office until the election of a new Executive Board.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE X – Chair</p> <p>1 The Chair presides at all Executive Board and General Meetings. In the Chair’s absence the Deputy Chair or failing the Deputy Chair one of the other members of the Executive Board will be designated by the Executive Board to preside over meetings.</p> <p>2 Nominees for the Office of Chair must have served a minimum period of one (1) three (3) year term as a member of the Executive Board. If no person is available</p>	

<p>for the Office of Chair who has served a minimum period of one (1) term as a member of the Executive Board, then anyone who has served as a full member organisation representative for a minimum period of one (1) term to the WPC may be nominated.</p> <p>3 An individual may serve as Chair for a maximum of two three-year terms.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE XI – Secretariat</p> <p>1 The Secretariat, working in conjunction with the Honorary Secretary/ Treasurer, records the minutes of the General Meetings, the meetings of the Executive Board and of all other meetings of the WPC, and distributes the minutes within 60 days to the members of the WPC and to the Executive Board.</p> <p>2 The Secretariat is in charge of all records of the WPC with the exception of financial records and accounts.</p> <p>3 The Secretariat keeps a registry of members and records including their personal data (address, date of admission).</p> <p>4 The Secretariat notifies the members of the meetings within the time limits indicated in the Bylaws.</p> <p>5 The Secretariat, in conjunction with the Honorary Secretary/Treasurer, is in charge of maintaining the accounts. The Secretariat shall provide regular financial reports to the Executive Board and submit audited annual financial statements arranged by the Executive Board to the General Meeting for approval. All disbursements shall be approved in advance by two members of the Executive Board.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE XII – Vote</p>	

<p>1 Each full member of the WPC whose current subscriptions are paid prior to the ordinary General Meeting is entitled to one vote except with respect to the following decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – modification of the WPC’s Bylaws – election of the Executive Board – venue for the triennial Conference of the WPC. <p>For these three cases, voting shall be confined to one vote per country. It shall be the responsibility of the member organisations within each country to make appropriate arrangements to exercise the vote of that country.</p> <p>2 No member, by law, is allowed to vote with respect to motions or decisions concerning a matter, transaction or a legal proceeding involving the World Plumbing Council, when he is a party to the proceeding.</p> <p>3 Proxy votes are not authorised except in the case of Article VI paragraph 5 of the Bylaws.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE XIII – Termination of Membership</p> <p>1 Each member may leave the Association, provided that he has announced his departure six months prior to the end of the year.</p> <p>2 Membership cannot be transferred.</p> <p>3 Each member can be excluded even without indication of the reasons for exclusion.</p>	

<p>ARTICLE XIV – Dissolution</p> <p>1 The Association is dissolved in the event of insolvency or when the Executive Board cannot be constituted according to the Bylaws.</p> <p>2 The General Meeting can decide at any moment to dissolve the Association.</p> <p>3 In the event that the Association is dissolved, all assets available will be donated to a public interest organisation pursuing a purpose analogous to the Association’s goal. In no circumstances will the Association’s assets be returned to the founders or members of the Association, nor will they be utilised for their profit in whole or part, in any way whatsoever.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE XV – Bylaws</p> <p>1 These Bylaws may be amended by a decision taken by two-thirds of those voting under article XII, save in relation to the modification of the Association’s objective (Article II paragraph 3) which requires a unanimous decision of said members.</p> <p>2 The proposed amendments must be notified to all members of the WPC at least 60 days prior to the meeting at which the amendments are to be considered.</p> <p>3 The Bylaws are available upon request to all members. In each case where a By-law is amended, the amended provision shall indicate the date of the amendment.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE XVI – Litigation</p>	

<p>Each member is authorised to commence court proceedings, within a month following the day when he learnt about a decision that he did not accept and which is in breach of the Law or the Bylaws.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE XVII – Interpretation Within these Bylaws, words importing singular shall include plural and vice-versa. Also, words importing the masculine gender shall include the feminine gender.</p>	
<p>ARTICLE XVIII – Official Language These By-laws are adopted in the English language only and shall be registered as such with the Registry of Commerce of Zurich. A German translation thereof may be filed with the Registry of Commerce for information purposes only and without any official or binding character.</p>	
<p>Duly approved by the Annual General Meeting held in the Sheraton Hotel, Rotorua, New Zealand on Wednesday 1 November, 2000. The Council was incorporated in Geneva as a non-profit organisation under Article 60 of the Swiss Civil Code on 18 January 2001, Federal Number CH-660-2641000-8. Amended at the Fourth Triennial Meeting held in Berlin on 22 May, 2002, on 1 and 2 September at the 2004 Annual Meeting, held in Perth, Western Australia, on 8 November 2005 at the Annual Meeting in St Louis, Missouri, United States, on 19 and 20 November 2007 at the 2007 Annual Meeting in Tokyo, Japan, on 7 September 2011 at the 2011 Annual Meeting in Edinburgh, Scotland, on the 21 and 22 October 2012 at the General Meeting in Brisbane, Australia, on the 14 March 2013 at the General Meeting in Frankfurt, Germany, on the 15 and 16 August 2015 at the General Meeting in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA, on 17 October 2023 at the General Meeting in Shanghai, China.</p>	<p><u>Supplement:</u> , on the 18 March 2025 at the General Meeting in Frankfurt, Germany.</p>

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