

Statutes of the European Contact Lens Society of Ophthalmologists ECLSO

The ECLSO is an association registered in Geneva, Switzerland

Name and registered office

The name of the association is European Contact Lens Society of Ophthalmologists (ECLSO).

Its registered office is in Geneva, Switzerland.

The statutes are in French, with an English translation

Only the French version is opposable.

1. Purpose of the association

The purpose of the association is to further the education of ophthalmologists, encourage scientific research and enable exchanges between among European practitioners in the field of medical contactology.

2. Affiliation

There are four categories of members:

- a) individual members
- b) members belonging to national groups
- c) honorary members
- d) International members

Only ophthalmologists shall be members of the association.

Individual members

The Praesidium can accept individual members from European Countries where no national group yet exists, upon written request by each candidate supported by two members.

Members being parts of national groups

The members of the national societies that are member of the ECLSO, who have paid their national dues are de facto members of the ECLSO.

Honorary members

The Praesidium can confer honorary membership to personalities who, through competence, scientific achievements, actions or teachings, have contributed to the development of medical contactology.

International members

The Praesidium can accept individual members from non-European countries upon written request of a candidate, supported by two members.

Honorary and international members are not eligible to the Praesidium and cannot vote in the various assemblies.

Membership is terminated by:

- a) resignation
- b) death
- c) exclusion

A resignation shall be addressed in writing to the Praesidium three months before the end of the current civil year.

The death of a member immediately terminates his membership in the association. Any member whose actions or declarations may severely hurt the good name and the interests of the association may be excluded. The exclusion shall be declared by the Praesidium convened for this purpose after hearing the member in question.

Any individual or international member not having paid his dues for two consecutive years shall be excluded automatically from the association.

Any national society having not paid its members' dues for two consecutive years shall be excluded automatically from the association.

3. Administration of the association

The association is represented by the following bodies:

- a) the Praesidium
- b) the Federal Council of national representatives
- c) The General Assembly of members

a) The Praesidium

a)1 Composition

The Praesidium or «Executive Board» is composed of six elected members

- a President
- two Vice-presidents
- a Secretary-general
- a Treasurer
- the person in charge for statutory and legal affairs

One member ex-officio:

- the Past President

a)2 Terms of Office

The members of the Praesidium are elected for four years with the exception of the Secretary General and the Treasurer who are elected for five years. Members of the Praesidium can be reelected for a maximum of three terms.

a)3 Age limit and cessation of professional activity

Only professionally active members having not reached their 65th birthday at the time of election shall be elected to the Praesidium.

If during his term a member of the Praesidium ceases his activity or reaches the age limit,

he shall stay in office until the end of his term.

a)4 Mode of election of members of the Praesidium

The members of the Praesidium are elected by the Federal Council of national representatives.

Candidatures are submitted to the Praesidium for deliberation and vote.

Candidature approved by the Praesidium shall be put to the vote of the Federal Council by the Secretary General.

Only national representatives of countries having payed their dues for the two years preceding the year of 3 vote have the right of voting.

Should a member of the Praesidium cease his duties during his term of office by resignation, exclusion or death, a new election shall be called by the Secretary General in the modalities laid down by the statutes.

The election shall be held during the annual Congress following the cessation of the member's office. The newly elected member shall remain in office until the end of his predecessor's term.

This notwithstanding, should the new member of the Praesidium be reelected at the end of his term, the rule of the three successive terms shall apply, without counting the time he has served as replacement.

Should the President quit his office before his time, the first Vice-president shall take over, the second Vice-president shall become the first, and a second Vice-president shall be elected according to the modalities outlined above.

a)5 Frequency and quorum of the Praesidium meetings

The Praesidium convenes at the request of the President upon notice by the Secretary General.

The Praesidium convenes:

Statutorily:

- during the Annual Congress of the Society
- for an intermediate session in between two annual congresses . . . Exceptionally:
- whenever necessary, at the official request of the President or Secretary General, should they wish to consult the Praesidium.

Decisions taken at a meeting of the Praesidium are valid if at least three members are present, including either the President or the Secretary General.

- For each meeting a president and a secretary of the session are elected.

In the absence of the President, the session will be chaired by the first vice-president or, failing that, by the second vice-president.

In the absence of Secretary General, the person in charge of legal and statutory affairs or, failing that, one of the vice-presidents shall act as secretary of the session. The minutes shall be sent to the Secretary General in order for publication after verification and approval by the person in charge of legal and statutory affairs. Telephone or video conferences are valid if they follow the same modalities.

The adoption of resolutions by circulars sent either by normal or electronic mail is valid. Votes shall be counted by the Secretary General.

The Praesidium takes its decision by simple majority of members present. In case of tie, the chairman of the session has the casting vote.

a)6 Refund of expenses incurred by members of the Praesidium

The members of the Praesidium, being volunteers, receive no pay.

Their expenses shall be payed as follows:

- for meetings of the Praesidium, really incurred expenses shall be paid upon presentation of bills to the Treasurer,

- for attending annual congresses of the ECLSO, in addition to the above mentioned refund an amount based on the time spent and the work done by each member shall be awarded to members present.

The amount of this allowance shall be fixed each year by the Praesidium at the treasurer's suggestion.

- for representing the ECLSO with:

higher authorities

other medical or scientific organisations

trade unions

any other body members of the Praesidium may wish to meet in the interest of the ECLSO and in strict observance to the purposes of the society as defined in chapter 2.

- Refunds, approved by the President, shall be on the basis of the real expenses, upon presentation of the bills to the Treasurer.

- for representing the ECLSO at meetings outside Europe, a partial refund in a lump sum may be proposed. Such shall require a vote by the Praesidium convened for the purpose. For the resolution to be valid, the following two conditions must be met:
the quorum of the Praesidium
a majority by two third of the voting members.

The refund shall be payed upon presentation of proof of attendance in the meeting in question.

a)7 Definition of duties and prerogatives of each member of the Praesidium

a7 1) The President

The President is elected by the General Assembly and takes office as of the first of January following his election.

The President sets the dates for the meetings of the Praesidium, the Federal Council and the General Assemblies, whether ordinary or extraordinary.

The President, in agreement with the Secretary General, sets the agenda.

The President chairs all meetings except those of the General Assembly and Federal Council voting to renew the terms of the Praesidium.

The President is the sole representative of the ECLSO to the Swiss and European authorities.

Only the President can open a Bank account in the name of the ECLSO.

The President is legally responsible to the authorities of the various countries for any decision, act and declaration made in the name of the ECLSO. He shall not be held responsible for the decisions, acts or declarations by members of the Praesidium and Federal

Council, not previously endorsed by the Praesidium, duly convened for this purpose.

The President shall inform the insurance company of his choice of his role and duties and will send a certificate of professional civil liability by such company to the Secretary General.

The President supervises the accounts of the Treasurer and may at any time call for an audit.

When voting, the President has the casting vote.

The President may propose a candidate of his choice for the next presidency.

The President may propose to the Praesidium an honorary member The President may propose to the Praesidium a candidate for the Fick-Kalt-Muller Medal.

The President may propose a candidate for the H.J. Kersley Lecture.

The President may propose the dissolution of the association with the approval of both the Federal Council and an Extraordinary General Assembly. General Assembly duly convened for this purpose, he shall take charge of the liquidation of the society together with the Secretary General and the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs, in compliance with the rules of the statutes.

A72) The Vice-presidents

The two Vice-presidents elected during the General Assembly shall take office as of the first of January following their election.

They assist the President in his tasks and replace him in his absence. The first Vice-president replaces the President in his absence. Should both the President and the first Vice-president be absent, the second Vice-president takes the chair.

Each Vice-president may propose candidates of his choice for the Praesidium and/or the Federal Council.

Each of Vice-president may propose to the Praesidium a candidate for honorary membership.

Each Vice-president may propose a candidate for the Fick-Kalt-Muller Medal.

Each Vice-president may propose a candidate for the H.J. Kersley lecture.

A 7 3) The Secretary General

The Secretary General is elected by the General Assembly and takes office as of the first of January following his election.

The Secretary General shall deposit the statutes with the Swiss authorities, as well as any subsequent modification thereof.

He shall do this in collaboration with and with the written approval by the person in charge for statutory and legal affairs.

The Secretary constantly up-dates the list of members and national groups in coordination with the Treasurer.

The Secretary General supervises the accounts of the Treasurer and may ask for an audit whenever he deems it necessary.

The Secretary General may convene a meeting of the Praesidium, The agenda shall be set after consultation with the President.

The Secretary General shall summon participants to meetings, following the rules set by the statutes.

The Secretary General shall send to participants in the various meeting the agenda set in collaboration with the President, following the rules set by the statutes.

The Secretary General shall draft the minutes of assemblies and meetings. The texts shall be countersigned by him and by another member of the Praesidium within two months of the meeting.

The minutes and the wording of decisions taken, after consultation with the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs, shall be submitted to the approval of the participants of the meeting at their next session, according to the rules of the statutes.

The Secretary General shall arrange and supervise the technicalities of telephone or video-conferences of the Praesidium and the Federal Council. The rules applying to traditional meetings apply to these too.

To save money and time, all written materials may be sent by electronic mail, with acknowledgment of receipt, care of the Secretary General.

Because of the cost involved, the Secretary General is authorized notwithstanding not to convene the members to an Annual or Extraordinary General Assembly by registered mail, provided it takes place during the Annual Congress of the ECLSO.

In this case alone the Secretary General may send the notice together with the announcement of the annual Congress. The agenda shall be sent with the notice.

The Secretary General shall send out the information concerning the venue of the Congress, its program and shall contribute to the promotion. He shall perform this task in full collaboration with the Praesidium as a body, with the person in charge of the scientific program, the person in charge of continuous education, the persons in charge in the organizing country as well as well as the company in charge of the practical organisation.

The Secretary General may propose candidates of his choice for the Praesidium and the Federal Council.

The Secretary General may propose to the Praesidium a candidate for honorary membership.

The Secretary General may propose a candidate for the Fick-Kalt-Muller Medal.

The Secretary General may propose a candidate for the H.J. Kersley lecture.

Should the President decides to dissolve the society, the Secretary General, in accordance to the statutes, convenes in succession the Praesidium, the Federal Council and an Extraordinary General Assembly for the purpose to decide on the topic. Should the dissolution be agreed upon, he shall liquidate the society following the modalities set by the

statutes in collaboration with the President and the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs.

A 74) The treasurer

The Treasurer is elected by the General Assembly and takes office as of the first of January after his election.

The Treasurer shall call for and collect dues from members and national groups. In collaboration with the Secretary General, he shall draw the list of payed members. He shall recover unpaid dues.

He shall send to the Praesidium the list of members or national groups not having payed their dues for two consecutive years without an acceptable reason iso as to start the exclusion procedure.

He is entrusted by the President to pay the bills, expenses and' taxes, in the strict respect of the Praesidium's decisions.

The treasurer shall not pay bills or expenses that have not been the object of a Praesidium's decision without explicit autorisation by the President or, in his absence, by the Secretary General.

If formally authorised by the President, the Treasurer shall manage the bank accounts of the society and shall do that with parsimonious caution.

The Treasurer shall check the provisional budget of the society in charge of organizing the annual congress and shall control the final balance sheet.

The treasurer shall supply the accounts of the society and provide all necessary information whenever the President or the Secretary General requests it. The treasurer shall produce an up-to-date financial statement at every meeting of the Praesidium.

The Treasurer shall send the annual accounts to the two elected auditors for audit and certification sufficiently in advance for them to have time to examine the accounts in depth.

The financial statement and the balance sheet shall be given for validation to the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs.

The treasurer shall present the annual balance-sheet at the session of the Praesidium during the annual congress and shall request the final discharge. The Treasure shall present the annual balance-sheet at the session of the Federal Council during the annual congress and shall request the final discharge. The Treasurer will present the annual balance sheet to the General Assembly during the annual congress and request the final discharge.

The Treasurer may propose candidates of his choice both for the Praesidium and the Federal Council.

The Treasurer may propose to the Praesidium a candidate for honorary membership.

The Treasurer may propose a candidate for the Fick-Kalt-Muller Medal.

The Treasurer may propose a candidate for the H.J. Kersley lecture.

Should the President decide to dissolve the society, the Praesidium, Federal Council and General Assembly shall be convened in the statutory manner to decide thereupon. Should the dissolution be agreed upon, the treasurer shall liquidate the society together with the President, the Secretary General and the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs to liquidate the society according to the principles laid down in statutes.

A 7 4) The Past President

The President ends his term office on the 31 of December of the year in which a new Praesidium has been elected at the annual congress. As of the first of January of the following year he takes the title and duties of Past President

He shall carry out his duties until the end of the term of the incumbent President. Should the President stay on for a second and last term, so shall the Past President.

The Past President's role is to advise the Praesidium and ensure continuity at the head of the ECLSO. The Past-president is a statutory member of the Praesidium and has all the duties therewith.

The Past-president may propose candidates of his choice for the Praesidium and the Federal Council. The Past-president may propose to the Praesidium a candidate for honorary membership.

The Past-president may propose a candidate for the Fick-Kalt-Muller Medal. The Past-president may propose a candidate for the H.J. Kersley lecture.

A7 4) The person in charge of statutory and legal affairs

The person in charge of statutory and legal affairs shall control the Tightness of any decision taken with regard to the statutes of the society, Swiss laws and rules as well as the law of the various member countries.

In order to perform his task, the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs is a de jure member of all Councils, commissions and assemblies.

He shall be informed by the Secretary General of all the minutes of the various assemblies, councils or commissions before publication.

He shall receive the annual financial statement and the balance-sheet by the Treasurer.

He shall give final discharge to the Treasurer before the General Assembly.

The person in charge of statutory and legal affairs shall assist the President in any judiciary or contentious business the ECLSO might encounter.

The person in charge of statutory and legal affairs shall keep the President informed of the evolution of European regulations in the field of contact lenses.

He shall represent the cause of medical contactology with the European authorities.

He may propose candidates of his choice for the Praesidium.

He may propose to the Praesidium a candidate for honorary membership. The person in charge of statutory and legal affairs may propose a candidate for the Fick-Kalt-Muller Medal.

He may propose a candidate for the H.J. Kersley lecture.

Should the President decide to dissolve the society, once the Secretary General has convened, according to the statutes the Praesidium, the Federal Council and an Extraordinary Assembly to decide thereupon, should the dissolution be agreed upon, he shall

liquidate the society in collaboration with the President, Secretary General and the Treasurer, according to the rules of the statutes.

A 7 5) Counsellors to the Praesidium

The Praesidium may appoint Counsellors for specific missions.

Though not members of the Praesidium, they may be invited by the Secretary General to attend the meeting should the Praesidium wish to have their views and advice on one or more points of the agenda.

They shall make a report to the Praesidium and the Federal Council at the time of the annual congress. Counsellors shall not vote in the Praesidium nor in the Federal Council.

Counsellors are volunteers and shall not be paid for their work.

c) Federal Council of National Delegates

c1) composition

The Federal Council is composed of 3 representatives of the national societies members of the ECLSO.

Every country whose national society member of the ECLSO has more than ten regularly payed members shall send one of his members as national representative.

c2) Length of term

National representatives are elected by their national society according to the rules and for term independently fixed by these societies.

c3) Age limit and ceasing of activity

Only national members professionally active and under the age of 65 at the moment of their election shall be eligible to the Federal Council.

If, during his term, a member of the Federal Council reaches 65 or quits his professional activity, he shall serve his term until the end.

c 4) Role of the Federal Council and national representatives

National representatives represent their countries to the ECLSO.

Their task is:

- to inform the Praesidium of the views of member societies,
- to inform their respective member societies of the ECLSO decisions.

The Federal Council is an advisory body with the power of putting forward proposals.

- It has an advisory say on all subjects the President, the Praesidium or the General Assembly may submit to it may put forward proposals to the Praesidium.

It discusses:

- the report of the Secretary General
- the report of the President
- the financial report of the Treasurer.

By secret ballot, it elects the members of the Praesidium proposed by the incumbent Praesidium.

When electing the Praesidium, the Federal Council, convened ad hoc, shall be chaired by its most senior member unless the latter is a candidate, in which case it shall be chaired by the next most senior national representative, unless of course a candidate.

Sessions shall be chaired by the President of the Praesidium or, in his absence, by one of the Vice-presidents. The members of the Praesidium shall have the right to attend the meetings of the Council but shall not vote.

The Secretary General, the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs or, in their absence, one of the two Vice-presidents, shall act as secretary to the session. The minutes shall be sent to the Secretary General for publication after being checked and approved by the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs.

c5) Frequency of meetings of the Federal Council

The Federal Council shall meet:

- once a year during the annual congress,
- at the request of the President of the Praesidium,
- at the request in writing of 30% of its members to the Secretary General, who shall convene a meeting within three months from receiving the request.

c6) Representation of National Societies in the Council during votes

When voting, and in particular when electing the Praesidium, each representative shall have a number of voting rights based on the number of paid members of his national society.

The rules are as follows:

- societies with less than fifty members shall have one voting right,
- societies with more than fifty members shall have one voting right and an additional one for each additional hundred members.

Should a national delegate run for election in the Praesidium, he shall be replaced during the election by a member of his society with power of proxy.

The Praesidium has the right of veto. A motion vetoed shall be put forward again the following year.

c7) Expenses of members of the Federal Council

Members of the Federal Council, being volunteers, shall receive no pay for their work.

Their expenses may be paid by their respective national societies according to their own rules. The ECLSO shall neither enforce their application nor define such rules.

d) The General Assembly

d1) Role of an ordinary General Assembly

An ordinary General Assembly shall:

- a) examine the annual report by the Praesidium, submitted by the Secretary General and

give it final discharge;

b) examine the annual financial report of the Praesidium submitted by the Treasurer and give it final discharge;

c) examine the report of the President of the Praesidium;

d) set the annual membership fee at the suggestion of the Treasurer;

e) discuss and take any decision concerning the future of the society at the suggestion of the President of the Praesidium, of the Federal Council or 10% of payed members. The proposal shall be sent in writing to the Secretary General for inclusion in the agenda, three months before the date of the General Assembly.

d2) Notice and frequency of meeting of the General Assembly

The General Assembly of the members meets once a year upon notice in writing by the Secretary General, indicating the agenda, at least four weeks prior to the date fixed. Such notice may be sent with that of the annual congress. The ordinary General Assembly of the ECLSO members shall convene once a year during the annual scientific congress.

d3) Role and modalities of the Extraordinary General Assembly

An Extraordinary General Assembly may be called for by the Secretary General in the following cases:

- modification of the statutes,
- change of registered office,
- dissolution of the society.

Prior to the notice, the President shall have secured the consent of the Praesidium, the Federal Council and the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs.

The Extraordinary General Assembly shall be convened in writing at least four weeks prior to the date of the meeting, with mention of the agenda. The notice may be sent with that of the Congress.

d4) Quorum and voting modalities

An ordinary General Assembly is valid if five payed members are present, provided one is either the President or the Secretary General and at least one of the others a member of the Praesidium.

Each payed European member present has one vote.

Proxy is not allowed nor is voting by mail.

The General Assembly takes its decisions by simple majority.

An extraordinary General Assembly is valid if five payed members are present, provided one is either the President or the Secretary General and at least one of the others is a member of the Praesidium.

The majority of three quarters of the members present is required.

Should the quota not be achieved, a new Extraordinary Assembly with the same agenda shall be convened within three months, with the same modalities, except that decisions will be taken by simple majority.

Should the motion obtain less than 50% of the voters, it shall be considered as rejected and shall not be put forward again at least until next annual Congress.

Each paid European member present shall have one vote.

Proxy shall not be allowed nor voting by mail.

4) Dues and other financial means

The society is a non-profit organisation and does not have the purpose to generate profits. Its income comes from the members' dues and from fees for enrolling in courses, educational meetings and congresses organised by the ECLSO.

Individual members shall pay annual dues. The amount of such dues shall be fixed by the Praesidium at the suggestion of the Treasurer and shall be approved by the General Assembly.

National groups shall pay dues per capita. The amount shall be fixed by the Praesidium at the suggestion of the Treasurer and shall be approved by the General Assembly.

By abeyance by the Praesidium, a national group may be allowed, for a short period of time, set in each case, to pay an annual due per capita 50% lower than the amount voted by the General Assembly.

The request, stating the motives on which it is based, shall be addressed in writing to the Treasurer by the national representative of the society in question three months before the beginning of a financial year.

The Treasurer shall put the request to the next meeting of the Praesidium.

The Praesidium's decision, which need not be motivated, shall be sent to the national representative having made the request.

International members shall pay annual dues, the amount of which shall be fixed by the Praesidium at the suggestion of the Treasurer and approved by the General Assembly.

Honorary members do not pay dues.

Dues shall be paid by the 30 of June of the financial year to enable treasurers of national societies to collect their dues and count their members. Payments to the ECLSO account shall be made before the 31 of December of the financial year.

5) Ratification of Decisions

The minutes of meetings of the Praesidium, Federal Council and General Assembly shall be approved and signed by at least two members of the Praesidium after consultation with the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs who shall certify their compliance with the statutes and rules of the society.

6) Format of the Agenda

The agenda of the Praesidium shall be in the following format:

verification of quorum

Appointment of a president and secretary for the session

approval of the minutes of the previous meeting,

admission of new members or national groups, resignations, deaths, exclusions,

annual report by the secretary General,

annual report and financial statement by the Treasurer,

when meeting during the scientific Congress, the Praesidium shall examine the report by the two auditors on the balance sheet submitted by the Treasurer and shall listen to their remarks.

The meetings of the Federal Council shall have the following format:

verification of the quorum,

appointment of the chairman and the secretary of the session,

approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

admission of new members and national groups, resignations, deaths, exclusions,

annual report by the Secretary General,

annual report and financial statement by the Treasurer.

The meetings of the General Assembly shall follow the following format:

verification of the quorum,

appointment of the chairman and the secretary of the session,

approval of the minutes of the previous meeting

admission of new members and national groups, resignations, deaths, exclusions,

annual report by the Secretary General,

annual report and financial statement by the Treasurer,

report by the two auditor on the financial statement by the treasurer,

fixing of the following year dues at the suggestions of the Treasurer,

dates and venues of next meetings,

items put on the agenda by the Secretary General,

questions

7) Organisation of the Annual congress

The ECLSO has as its basic mission to organise the annual European Congress of medical contactology. The Praesidium shall be in charge of the organisation.

The Congress is open only to ophthalmologists having paid their registration fees.

Members of other professions may attend as individual guests.

The date of the Congress shall be fixed with due consideration given to

- the dates of Christian, Jewish and Muslim holidays,
- the dates of other European and International congresses,
- holidays in the various member countries,
- cultural events in the various member countries.

The congress may comprise:

- a scientific program,
- an exhibition,

- scientific posters,
- educational courses,
- prizegiving,
- lectures,
- a social program.

The ECLSO shall dispatch a mailing to all its members informing them of the holding of the congress and the scientific program. Any other medium (internet, e-mail, etc.) may be used,

The Secretary General shall prepare and send the information.

In agreement with the Treasurer, he may hand over the sending of information to a sponsor or an organising company. The Praesidium may delegate the practical organisation of the Congress to a specialised company.

The organising society may be granted a loan of 10.000 Euros.

The loan shall be granted provided the following three conditions have been fulfilled:

- a provisional budget has been submitted to the Treasurer,
- the Praesidium has investigated it.
- the Treasurer has validated the Congress accounts.

The organising society shall give a financial statement to the Treasurer every two months as well as a final balance sheet within two months of the end of the Congress. The profit shall be paid to the Treasurer within thirty of the closing off of the accounts.

8) Prizes and Conferences

8a) Fick-Kalt-Muller Prize

Every two years the Fick-Kalt-Muller Medal shall be awarded to commemorate the medical doctors who invented the first contact lenses in 1887.

This prize rewards an individual or team achievement in the field of contact lenses. Members of the Praesidium with the right to put forward a candidate shall submit the candidate's dossier to the Praesidium for approval. If none of the candidates obtains the majority, the prize shall not be awarded.

8b) H.J. Kersley Lecture

Every two year, alternating with the Fick-Kalt-Muller Medal, shall be awarded a prize in the honor of H.J. Kersley. The laureate shall give a named lecture during the scientific session of the congress. The duration shall be twenty minutes.

The laureate shall:

- be member of the ECLSO,
- have given one or more presentations, noted for their high scientific contents, at ECLSO congresses,
- have been actively promoting medical contactology.

Members of the Praesidium with the right to put forward a candidate shall submit the candidate's dossier twenty four months before the date of the lecture.

The Secretary General shall submit the list of candidates to the 'Praesidium for approval at

the first meeting following the filing of the candidates' dossiers.

The laureate shall be chosen by the Praesidium eighteen months before the date of the lecture.

The amount of the prize 1.000 Euros.

The laureate shall be invited to the congress and exempted of registration fees.

9) Financial interests

9a) Speakers

Speakers at a Congress shall be required, at the outstart of their presentations, to indicate any link they may have with commercial firms.

9b) Financial interests of members of elected boards

Members of the Praesidium and the Federal Council shall be required to let the Secretary General know any link they might have with the contact lens industry.

10) Dissolution of the society

Should the President decide to dissolve the society, the Secretary General shall convene, as per the Statutes, the Praesidium, the Federal Council and an Extraordinary General Assembly in this order to decide on the matter.

Once the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs advises on the conformity of the procedure with the Swiss law, should the dissolution be agreed upon, the President in collaboration with the Secretary General, the Treasurer and the person in charge of statutory and legal affairs shall proceed to the liquidation of the society in the modalities set by the statutes.

The net assets of the society after liquidation shall be given to a bona fide charitable organization and/or a medical organization chosen by the liquidators.

The present statutes have been approved by the General Assembly of the members on the April 17th 1982 and amended by the General Assembly on May 22nd 1993 and on September 16th 1994.