

# BYLAWS OF THE World Society for Virology

## ARTICLE I

### Name, mission and objectives

The name of this non-profit corporation is: «World Society for Virology» (WSV), Inc. that was founded on 6 May 2017 and it was incorporated on December 14, 2017, as a non-profit cooperation in the state of Massachusetts in the United States of America. The main mission of WSV is to strengthen research on viruses affecting all forms of life. The WSV's main objectives include, but are not limited to:

- 1- Connect virologists worldwide to facilitate communication, scientific collaboration, resource sharing, funding opportunities
- 2- Help virologists worldwide to advance their careers and to obtain recognition for their achievements
- 3- Provide educational resources in virology and related fields.
- 4- Collaboration with other international organizations, official scientific organizations and other virology societies.
- 5- WSV has an official logo and a website at [www.ws-virology.org](http://www.ws-virology.org).
- 6- “[Virology](#)” is the current official journal of the World Society for Virology
- 7- WSV may introduce a Journal for raising funds and serve the virology community

## ARTICLE II

### Membership

**SECTION 1. Eligibility of Membership.** WSV Membership is open to all investigators who have been or are actively involved in virology. Membership is provided without any annual fees.

***Distinguished members:*** are individuals selected by WSV who have demonstrated a career of achievement in virology as determined by the Membership Review Committee.

***Members:*** are virologists or scientists having evidence of virology publications. Graduate students who do not possess any publications, must submit a recommendation letter of his/her supervisor proving that the applicant is involved in virology or virus-related research as a prerequisite of approval of the candidacy of the applicant.

***Supporting members:*** are virologists, scientists, researchers, or people from industrial companies who show interest in virology and are willing to be members in the WSV and able to donate monthly/annually during membership renewal time.

**SECTION 2. Application for Membership.** Application for membership will be offered by completing an online membership application form available at [www.ws-virology.org/membership](http://www.ws-virology.org/membership). Applications will be processed by the Membership Review Committee. An automatic confirmation of the membership will be sent to the member after approval of the application by the Membership Review Committee

### SECTION 3. **Benefits for WSV members**

Discounts on registration fees for other scientific virology conferences, access to educational resources, and the opportunity to get access to WSV webinars, presentations, and conferences, travel grants and other various awards of WSV. Further, access to other members worldwide and access to events facilitating collaboration between international virologists are additional benefits.

## **ARTICLE III**

### **Meetings**

SECTION 1. **Regular Online Meetings.** A minimum of one annual online meeting of all Council Members together with the heads of the committees will be held in the first week of May. The exact time is to be approved by 60% of the attendees. Further, a minimum of two annual meetings will be held by each Committee.

SECTION 2. A scientific conference will be organized every second year in different member countries. The registration fees will be held low for scientists from developing countries and students to be able to attend, and sponsorships will be sought. There will be separate local and scientific organizing committees each time, but the Training Committee, Officers, and lastly the Council, will have main responsibility.

SECTION 3. **Special Meetings.** In some cases, calls for special meetings covering specialized topics of interest may be suggested by any member of the Organizing Committee or of another WSV committee. The approval, time, and location will be discussed by the Council. To approve a proposed special meeting, a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of the members from the Council must vote (e-voting) to approve the meeting within 7 working days. A notice specifying the purpose of proposed meetings must be provided at least **one year** before the suggested meeting time.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Officers and Elections**

SECTION 1. **Officers:** The officers of the WSV consist of a Past President, President, President-Elect, six Vice-Presidents (one each representing Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America, and South America), the Secretary, Secretary-Elect, the Treasurer and Treasurer-Elects.

**Elections:** The President-Elect, six Vice-Presidents (one each representing Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, North America, and South America), Secretary-Elect, Treasurer and Treasurer-Elect shall be elected by the membership. The President-Elect is elected every two years and serves as a President-Elect for two years and the following 2 years will serve as the President. The President will then serve as Past President when the new President takes the office. The same person can be re-elected for President or President-Elect only once.

The Secretary-Elect and Treasurer-Elect are elected together with the election of the President every two years and serve for two years as Secretary-Elect and Treasurer-Elect and the following 2 years they will serve as the Secretary and Treasurer respectively. The position of Treasurer-Elect will be filled alternately representing USA and Europe.

The nominations (including self-nomination) for filling up various positions of WSV will be



invited from the members by email. After receiving the responses, the Secretary will circulate the list to the Council members. The Council members will then select suitable candidates for each position based on his/her CV and male/female ratio. The Council can also delete or add names to the list. For the rest of officers, different disciplines and/or countries are preferred to be represented among the final list for voting. There will be an online voting system that will be opened for one month. After that the results will be declared.

**SECTION 2.** The President is the person responsible for executing the strategies and plans approved by the Council of the Society and represents WSV at all meetings of the Society and elsewhere. The President is responsible for appointing all Committees not otherwise provided for in the Bylaws; is responsible for the general direction of the affairs of the Society, and signs contracts on behalf of the society after approval of the council.

**SECTION 3.** The President-Elect serves as President in case of the absence, inability or death, of the President. The President-Elect will also perform duties to support the President, as suggested by the Council. The past president will help the current President, if needed, for the two years following his/her term as President. Vice presidents for different continents are responsible for the activities of the societies within the continent. They help the WSV in initiating new partnerships with virology societies and governmental and/or international organizations. They also work with the respective committee heads in promoting the society and support all activities of the WSV. They will provide reports of their activities in an annual manner to the President to be discussed in the council meeting.

**SECTION 4.** The Secretary is responsible for keeping the minutes of meetings of the Society and send out all notices of the society. The Secretary will also oversee the transmission of WSV educational and networking resources.

**SECTION 5.** The Secretary-Elect is the individual elected to become Secretary in the 2 years following an election. The Secretary-Elect will assume the duties of the Secretary whenever the Secretary is unable to complete them. The Secretary-Elect assists the Secretary in the performance of their duties.

**SECTION 6.** The Treasurers. There are two Treasurers, one based in the USA referred to as Treasurer (USA) and one based in Europe referred to as Treasurer (Europe). The Treasurers are responsible for the administration of all funds and securities of the WSV. The Treasurers are also responsible for maintaining the non-profit status of the WSV, and all related financial aspects in the USA/ Europe. The Treasurers will periodically report to the President and the Council Committee about the financial status and legal compliance of WSV. The Treasurers will serve a two-year term. The Treasurer-Elect will assume the duties of the Treasurer whenever the Treasurer is unable to complete them. The Treasurer-Elect assists the Treasurer in the performance of their duties.

**SECTION 7.** The Council possesses the supreme power and responsible for developing the plans and strategies of the society and evaluates the reports submitted from different committees/offices with the end function of suggesting plans for action, development and appointment of new subcommittees, and adoption of rules and regulations for conducting the WSV meetings and activities. The council can appoint/replace members in different committees. The Council may appoint a member of the Society to complete the term of a

President, President-Elect, Secretary, or Treasurer, Head of Membership Review Committee or Head of the Training and Career Developing Committee who is no longer able to serve or cannot fulfill the required tasks until an election can be held to fill the office. Replacement about one third to one fourth of the council members will be conducted every 2 years.

SECTION 8. The Membership Review Committee (MRC) is responsible for handling the membership applications, promoting the WSV in different countries, initiating partnerships with national and international virology/microbiological societies, and increasing the visibility of WSV. The MRC can suggest and manage fellowship programs. Election of the head of the MRC will be conducted every two years. The head of the committee will report the activities of its committee and suggestions to the Council (on 31 March each year).

SECTION 9. The Training and Career Development Committee (TCDC) is responsible for generating and sharing educational resources including information about viruses of different species to be published on the WSV website. TCDC will also be responsible for updating WSV on upcoming virology events regionally and internationally, helping in negotiating discounts for WSV members with conference organizers, and aiding in WSV member application to training grants and scholarships. TCDC with other Executive Committee members will be also responsible for organizing workshops, conferences together with local organizer. An election of the head of the TCDC will be conducted every two years. The head of the Committee will report the activities of the Committee and make suggestions to the Council (on 31 March every year).

## ***ARTICLE V***

SECTION 1. The WSV will raise funds through conference fees, fellowship programs, donations by its supporting members, sponsorship by pharmaceutical and/or industrial companies, journal activities, or by endowment funds. The funds will be directed only to maintaining the functions and objectives of the non-profit organization.

**President**

**Prof, Anupam Varma**



**Founding President**

**Prof. Ahmed S. Abdel-Moneim**



**Date: 09.01.2022**