

Rules of Procedure of the IFOAM Aquaculture Group

Name

The name of the IFOAM Group is the IFOAM Aquaculture Group.

Nature of the Group

The IFOAM Aquaculture Group is an organ within IFOAM, organising members interested in organic aquaculture.

Objective

The purpose of the IFOAM Aquaculture Group is:

- to pursue IFOAM's objectives within the area of aquaculture and captured fisheries
- to represent its members within IFOAM in the area of aquaculture and capture fisheries
- to represent its members to the outside in the area of aquaculture and capture fisheries
- to discuss standards, certification and general development in the area
- to facilitate the information between members
- to be a base for a working group on aquaculture in the IFOAM Basic Standards

Membership

The criteria for membership is

- membership in IFOAM (both full and associate members)
- interest in organic aquaculture or captured fisheries

The IFOAM Aquaculture Group Board decides upon admission of members. It may expel members that act against IFOAM's objectives or interests. The decisions may be appealed to IFOAM.

The IFOAM Aquaculture Group can also invite non-IFOAM members to its meetings as observers.

Organs

The official organs of the IFOAM Aquaculture Group are the Membership Meeting and the IFOAM Aquaculture Board. The Membership Meetings or the IFOAM Aquaculture Group Board may set up Working Groups, Task Groups and delegate specific tasks or authorities to such bodies or to individuals.

Membership Meetings

Membership Meetings will be held at least annually and will be announced one month in advance. The Membership Meeting elects a Chair of the meeting. The Membership Meeting votes by simple majority with at least 7 of the members represented. Voting is open or by secret ballot, if so requested by one member. Members and associate members have one vote. Votes by written proxy are permitted, but restricted to a total of five votes per person.

Decisions of the Membership Meetings are recorded in Minutes, which are signed by the Chair and distributed to all the members and to IFOAM.

On the written request of 25 % of the members or by IFOAM an extraordinary Membership Meeting can be called.

Election of the IFOAM Aquaculture Group Board

A Board of the IFOAM Aquaculture Group is elected every second year. The election is made at a Membership Meeting. The election of the Board has to be announced in writing three months in advance.

The following officers will be elected by simple majority vote at each Membership Meeting:

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Secretary

The Board can co-opt one additional member.

Contact point

The Chair shall be the point of contact with IFOAM, and shall be responsible for communication with the members. The official language is English.

The IFOAM Aquaculture Group Board

The IFOAM Aquaculture Group Board decides all issues not yet determined by the Membership Meeting. The Board has to establish rules of procedure for itself. The Board takes decisions by simple majority with at least half of the members present and by open vote. On the request of two Board members a Board meeting is called with six weeks notice.

Amendments, Modifications

The IFOAM Aquaculture Group Board may unanimously pass provisional amendments of these rules that remain in force until the relative decision is taken by the next Membership Meeting. Any such amendments have to be made known to all members at least three months before they are implemented. Any modification of the ruled proposed by the IFOAM Aquaculture Group Board should be sent to the members not less than two months before the next Membership Meeting.

Any amendments to the rules of procedure must be approved by the IFOAM World Board before they enter into force.

Finances

Membership fees are fixed by a Membership Meeting. Any membership fees must be approved by IFOAM before they enter into force.

Termination

When the IFOAM Aquaculture Group is terminated its remaining assets shall be transferred to IFOAM.

Approved by the Executive Board 2003-01-28, Munich, Germany