



## IFS STRATEGY ANNEX 1

# Organisational Structure and Governance

### THE BEGINNING

The Foundation Charter of IFS was signed in Stockholm on 26 May 1972 by:

- Sven Brohult, Professor, President of the Royal Swedish Academy of Engineering Sciences (IVA), Chairman of the IFS Organizing Committee
- Robert E Marshak, Professor of Nuclear Physics, Rochester University, USA
- Roger Revelle, Chairman of the Harvard Center for Population Studies, USA
- Abdus Salam, Director of the International Center for Theoretical Physics (ICTP), Trieste, Italy

The idea for the creation of IFS came out of the Pugwash Conferences of 1965 and 1969 and was then consolidated at a UNESCO Conference in 1970. It was supported by 16 Academies of Sciences from around the world, and these became the founding Member Organisations. The first year of activity was 1974 when 45 research grants were given to young scientists in 17 countries. Grant No. 1 went to Côte d'Ivoire. At present, IFS has awarded more than 8000 grants in over 105 countries.

### LEGAL STATUS

IFS is registered in Stockholm, Sweden as a *stiftelse* (English: foundation) with the official name: *International Foundation for Science, Insamlingsstiftelse*. The aims, governance and construction of IFS are given in the statutes of the organisation. IFS is also registered as a charity in the USA.

### GOVERNANCE

The Board of Trustees is the governing body of IFS. It shall determine the policies and fulfil the corporate responsibilities of the organisation. It has a minimum of eleven members and can be expanded by one or two optional Trustees-at-Large. The composition of the Board is:

- Eight Trustees shall represent the four major geographical regions: two representing Latin America/Caribbean; two representing Africa; two representing Asia/Pacific; two representing Europe/North America. They shall all be appointed from among candidates nominated by Affiliated Organisations in the region concerned or by regional and international Affiliates with activities in the region.
- Three Trustees shall be appointed from among candidates nominated by IFS's donors.

- In addition, and to ensure suitable geographic and disciplinary background and other balances, the Board may appoint one or two Trustees-at-Large.
- The Director of IFS is an ex-officio non-voting member of the Board.

The Board of Trustees appoints the Director, who is responsible for the Secretariat and the operation of the organisation, including the employment of Secretariat staff, the appointment of Scientific Advisors, the establishment of the Scientific Advisory Committees (SAC) and the approval of research grants and other support given to early career scientists in Low- and Lower-Middle-Income Countries.

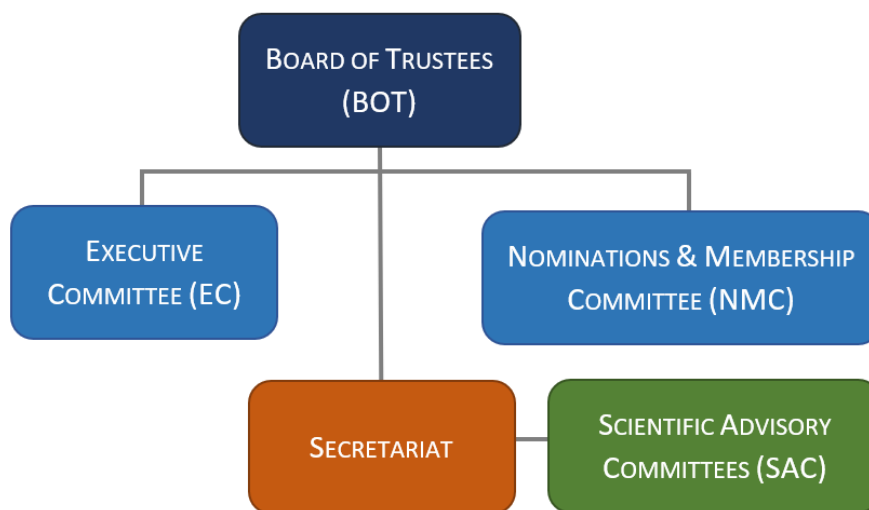
The Board of Trustees has these committees:

- Executive Committee
- Nominations and Membership Committee
- Audit Committee (to be approved in 2020)

These committees' functions and compositions are described in the IFS Statutes. The Audit Committee will be added after 2019.

## HISTORICAL CHANGES TO GOVERNANCE AND LEGAL STATUS

Originally, the highest governing organ of IFS was the IFS Assembly (called the General Assembly prior to 1993), comprising representatives of all stakeholders, including Member Organisations, of which there were 126 from 82 countries in 2001. It met every three years. The planned 9<sup>th</sup> IFS Assembly in Kuala Lumpur in 2001 was cancelled for budgetary reasons, and within a short time IFS was remodeled, abolishing the Assembly as the governing organ. The organisation was reconstituted in 2002 (with the current legal status and name), giving the Board of Trustees the role of governing organ (see chart below). The Statutes were also adapted to changes in the Swedish Foundation Law that did not allow for membership such as IFS had had; thus Member Organisations were re-defined as Affiliated Organisations. Today their primary role is the nomination of candidates for Trustee positions and some affiliated organizations collaborate closely with IFS.



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