

FEDERATION OF EUROPEAN PHYCOLOGICAL SOCIETIES (FEPS)

Foundation and Constitution

Statement: This document does not create any legally-binding obligations on any party, and does not create a partnership.

1. Name of the Federation

The Federation shall be called the “Federation of European Phycological Societies”. Acronym: “FEPS”.

2. Mission Statement of the Federation

The aim of the Federation of European Phycological Societies is to provide a forum for all European phycological societies and individuals with an interest in phycology to enable, promote and enhance algal (including cyanobacterial) research, education and other activities, to increase public awareness of the importance of algae and cyanobacteria, and to contribute to public debate and policy issues involving these organisms throughout Europe.

3. Federation Activities

- 3.1.** Promotion of public understanding and public relations in matters involving algae
- 3.2.** Lobbying and public policy input at European level
- 3.3.** Transfer of knowledge and technology
- 3.4.** FEPS website, with news and links to phycological and other relevant websites
- 3.5.** Organisation of workshops, symposia and educational activities
- 3.6.** Links to other scientific organisations across Europe
- 3.7.** Field meetings, training sessions and courses
- 3.8.** Register of experts in e.g. algal taxonomy across Europe
- 3.9.** Production of publications as appropriate
- 3.10.** Financial support for student bursaries, research-related visits/exchanges.
- 3.11.** Organisation of the European Phycological Congress series after Spain 2007 (IV EPC) if agreed.

4. Membership of the Federation

There shall be two levels of Membership:

4.1. Full Member

4.1.1. The Full Member category shall make up the core membership of FEPS. This shall consist of national constituted Psychological Societies and Algal Groups from throughout Europe.

4.1.2. National constituted Psychological Societies and Algal Groups in countries neighbouring Europe shall also be eligible for Full Membership of FEPS.

4.1.3. Admission to Full Membership shall be with the majority approval of the Council.

4.1.4. Each national Society or Group shall have the status of a single, Full Member.

4.2. Individual Member

4.2.1. Individuals who are not members of any national Psychological Society or Algal Group, or who do not have a constituted Society or Group in their own country or state, shall be encouraged to join one of the existing constituent Societies or Groups of their choice.

4.2.2. Psychologists with no available national Society or Group shall have the option of joining FEPS as Individual Members.

4.2.3. Citizens of countries neighbouring Europe shall also be eligible for Individual Membership.

4.2.4. Admission to Individual Membership shall be with the majority approval of the Council.

5. Privileges of Membership

Fully paid-up Members shall have the following privileges:

5.1. Full Member

5.1.1. to receive all notices pertaining to the activities of FEPS.

5.1.2. to attend all meetings, workshops and excursions, subject to payment of agreed registration fees.

5.1.3. to receive all literature issued by FEPS, free or at a reduced rate, as the Council of the Federation may determine.

5.1.4. to vote in the election of Members to the Council of FEPS and to vote in the conduct of the proceedings of FEPS at any meetings of the Federation.

5.1.5. to be eligible for service on the Council of the Federation, and its Committees or as its appointed Officers.

5.1.6. to introduce visitors at any meeting of the Federation (with the exception of an Annual General Meeting of the Federation), unless the Council by resolution suspends this privilege for any particular reason.

Full Member Societies and Groups shall ensure that the privileges to which they are entitled are passed on to their respective national members.

5.2. Individual Member

5.2.1. to receive all notices pertaining to the activities of FEPS.

5.2.2. to attend all meetings, workshops and excursions, subject to payment of agreed registration fees.

5.2.3. to receive all literature issued by FEPS, free or at a reduced rate, as the Council of the Federation may determine.

6. Membership Fees

6.1. Membership Fees shall be consistent with the low budget, minimal administration policy of the Federation.

6.2. Membership Fees shall be payable annually and in advance. They shall be due on the 31 of January each year.

6.3. Membership Fees shall be set by the Council.

6.4. Fees for Full Membership shall be at a standard per capita rate which shall be applied according to the total members of each national Society or Group. The initial Full Membership Fee for each Society or Group fee shall be one Euro per capita in the respective Society or Group.

6.5. Fees for Individual Membership shall be payable on an individual basis. The initial Individual Membership Fee shall be ten Euros per capita.

6.6. Every new Full Member and Individual Member shall pay to the Secretary or other designated Officer, within one month, the annual Membership Fee for the current year. Such payment shall entitle the Member to all privileges of the Federation for that year. The first annual Fee paid by any Member joining the Federation within the last 2 months of the calendar year shall also cover the succeeding year.

6.7. The costs of Membership Fees shall be set by the Council subject to ratification at an Annual General Meeting of the Federation.

6.8. Changes in Membership Fees shall be ratified at an Annual General Meeting of the Federation.

6.9. Membership Fees shall be publicised on a FEPS webpage and in all other relevant publications of the Federation.

6.10. If any Members shall be in arrears of payment of Membership Fees for more than 6 months, the Secretary or other designated Officer shall inform the Member that, if payment is not made before the end of 12 months, the Member's name shall be removed from the Federation Membership.

7. Resignation of Membership

7.1. Resignation of membership shall be signified in writing to the Federation Secretary or other designated Officer. Letters of resignation of Membership shall be received by 30 September to become effective on January 1st of the following year.

7.2. The Member so resigning shall be liable for payment of the annual subscription for the current year plus any arrears due.

8. Foundation and Governance

The governance and administration of FEPS shall occur in two stages: an initial Founding Phase to be followed by the fully established Federation.

8.1. Founding Phase

8.1.1. The Founding Phase shall serve to establish FEPS, initiate activities and present a structure for consideration, amendment and approval at a future Annual General Meeting of the Federation.

8.1.2. FEPS shall be established on July 22, 2007 by the signature of a Founding Charter by the members of the Founding Council.

8.1.3. The Founding Council shall consist of one representative each of the Founding national Societies and Groups, plus others as co-opted by the Founding Council.

8.1.4. The Founding Phase shall be governed and administered by the Founding Council. All decisions taken by the Founding Council shall be by simple majority.

8.1.5. The Founding Council shall be chaired by a President and served by a Secretary.

8.1.6. Membership Fees, as in Section 6, shall be payable during this Founding Phase.

8.1.7. The Founding Council shall function for 12 calendar months after the signature of the Founding Charter, upon which the First Annual General Meeting of FEMS shall be convened.

8.1.8. The Founding Council shall bring to the First Annual General Meeting proposals for the future governance and administration of the Federation.

8. 2. Established Federation.

The procedures, governance, finance and administration of FEPS would be agreed, with amendments as appropriate, at the first Annual General Meeting of the Federation.

Geoffrey A. Codd, Dundee, 9 July 2007