



**Constitution of the  
International Association of Natural Resources  
(iAONR)**

**Approved by the Board of Directors on 10 February 2025**



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### Article I The Organization

The International Association of Natural Resources (iAONR) is a nonprofit organization.

### Article II Objectives and Core Values

iAONR is formed, administered, and operated to receive, administer, and expend funds for charitable and academic exchange purposes within the meaning of the Income Tax Act (ITA), by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) and registered under the ITA of a 501(c)(3), including fostering the development and dissemination of management and organization knowledge, and advancing research, academic exchange, and professional standards and training in the field of natural resources science. iAONR may also engage in other charitable activities as determined by the Board of Directors, including being organized and operated exclusively for charitable purposes, such as relief of poverty, advancement of education, or promotion of religion. It may engage in any lawful activities incidental to those purposes except where restricted.

#### 1. iAONR pursues the following objectives:

- (1) To encourage wider acceptance and active idea exchanges among those interested in the science, education, and practice of natural resources;
- (2) To provide opportunities for closer cooperation and collaboration among scholars, educators, practitioners, and policymakers about scientific research, education, practice and management of natural resources around the world;
- (3) To advance a flexible platform with unquestioned reputation for excellent scholarship and intellectual integrity.



## 2. Core Values

- (4) Pursuit of Excellence – members, officers, and volunteers of iAONR aspire to reach excellence in all of their activities and contributions, individually and collectively.
- (5) Source of Inspiration – iAONR members draw inspiration from each other's work and from the activities, programs and publications offered by iAONR.
- (6) Responsible Scholarship – iAONR encourages its members to contribute to the well-being of the Association and the global community through engaged and socially responsible scholarship in management.
- (7) Spirit of Service – iAONR promotes volunteerism and a strong spirit of service from its members to iAONR and to the profession as a whole.

## Article III Governance

iAONR is led by the Board of Directors (the Board) that oversees its activities and ensures compliance with its purpose. The number of Directors is determined by iAONR bylaws, which call for at least one President. iAONR bylaws also guide the Board in electing or appointing new presidents. iAONR is authorized to conduct its affairs and activities and to hold annual or special meetings of its Board of Directors anywhere around the world.

The Board includes the immediate past president, the president, president-elect, vice-president / program chair, and at least three individuals who are not related to each other (i.e., independent). The iAONR requires that at least one of the directors be an independent member with no direct or indirect interest in its operations or financial dealings.

The Board leads and controls iAONR development direction and strategies, establishes iAONR goals and the means to achieve the goals, and delegates powers to officers of iAONR and to committees as provided in the bylaws and allowed by law.

## Article IV Membership

Membership is open to those interested in the science, education, and practice of natural resources research and management. The bylaws may specify different membership classes.



## Article V Meetings

The Board convenes at least once yearly. The Executive Committee, as the standing committee supervising iAONR development, holds at least one annual meeting with members physically present and virtual meetings when necessary.

The Executive Committee determines times and locations for annual business meetings of the membership.

## Article VI Constitutional Amendments

When two-thirds majority of the Board of Directors endorse proposals to amend the Constitution, the proposals are communicated to the voting membership by electronic or mail ballots.

Constitutional amendments require that 10% of iAONR voting members cast a majority vote for the amendment. Voters must be fee-paying members in good standing and they are to cast their votes sixty days before the ballot is sent.

## Article VII iAONR Requirements

Directors, officers, or other private persons shall not benefit from iAONR net earnings. However, iAONR is authorized and empowered to reasonably reimburse Directors, officers, or other private persons for iAONR -related travel in accordance with iAONR's travel policy. No substantial part of iAONR activities shall be used for propagandizing or otherwise attempting to influence legislation. iAONR shall not participate in and/or intervene in any political campaigns, and publish and/or distribute materials for such activities or on behalf of any candidates for public office. The iAONR shall not engage in any activities that are prohibited for registered charities under the Income Tax Act (RSC 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.)) or under the regulations governing tax-exempt organizations, including those that collect donations eligible for tax receipts under Canadian tax law.

As long as iAONR is considered a private foundation under Canadian law, it shall distribute its income for each fiscal year in a manner that ensures it is not subject to any tax penalties or restrictions imposed on undistributed income under the Income Tax Act (RSC 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.)) or related regulations. iAONR shall not engage in acts of self-dealing as defined by the Income Tax Act or the associated guidelines for registered charities. iAONR shall refrain from making investments that could result in penalties or taxes as outlined under the Income Tax Act for private foundations. Additionally, iAONR shall avoid making any taxable expenditures as



defined in the relevant sections of the Income Tax Act or subsequent regulations pertaining to registered charities.

#### **Article VIII Private Property**

The private property of the Directors and officers shall not be subject to any payment of iAONR debts.

#### **Article IX Dissolution**

If iAONR is dissolved, assets remaining after paying the debts shall be distributed exclusively for charitable or academic purposes to organizations that are exempt from federal tax under Income Tax Act (RSC 1985, c. 1 (5th Supp.)) and are exempt from income tax, to which contributions are eligible for tax receipts in accordance with Canadian tax law.

iAONR