



Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union

STATUTES

2025

As amended at the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 7th, 8th, 12th,
13th, 14th, 19th, 20th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 30th,
33rd, 36th, 39th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 45th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 51st,
52nd, 53rd, 58th, and 61st, and 62nd General Assembly.

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STATUTES

Article 1: FOUNDATION

1. The Union shall be called the “Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union” (hereinafter referred to in abbreviation as the ABU). The registered place of business of the ABU shall be “2nd Floor, New IPPTAR Building, Angkasapuri 50614, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia” or at such other place as may from time to time be decided by the Administrative Council. The registered place of business of the ABU shall not be changed without the prior approval of the Registrar of Societies, Malaysia.
2. “Broadcasting” as herein employed shall refer to the transmission of content and/or signals intended for reception by the general public, including sound transmissions, television transmissions and other types of transmissions, regardless of the technical means of delivery.
3. “Broadcasting organisation” as herein employed refers to an organisation which operates a broadcasting service under the government authority or with authorisation by the competent government agency of the country or area concerned, or a national association of broadcasting organisations.
4. The “ABU region” as herein employed refers to the region comprising the countries of Asia and the Pacific which lie substantially between the longitudes of 30 degrees east and 170 degrees west.
5. The ABU shall be of unlimited duration.
6. The ABU shall obtain and possess legal status in accordance with the laws of the country where it shall have its seat or in any country within the ABU region as may be approved by the Administrative Council.
7. The seat of the ABU shall be at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The foundation site of the ABU is Tokyo, Japan.

Article 2: VISION, MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

1. The ABU shall be a professional Union of broadcasting organisations. It shall have no political or commercial aims.

2. The ABU vision is:

To empower our members to develop their broadcasting services in a dynamic media environment.

3. The ABU mission is:

To be an active and responsive organisation in promoting the development of broadcasting in the Asia-Pacific region and representing the common interests of its members whilst recognising the diversity of its membership and the changing media environment.

The ABU will do this by facilitating action and providing services which:

- enable members to contribute effectively towards the development of their countries and improvement of the quality of life in the region;
- bring members together through cooperative activities to promote the development of the industry;
- assist members to improve content, skills, technologies and management;
- encourage harmonisation of operating and technical broadcasting standards and systems in the region and internationally;
- further members' interests in the media environment by assisting them to take advantage of new opportunities.

4. The **objectives** of the ABU are:

- a) to promote excellence in broadcasting in ways consistent with members' available resources;

- b) to promote measures designed to help the development of broadcasting in the Asia-Pacific region;
- c) to organise and promote joint activities and projects, in the content, technical, management and other fields of common interest;
- d) to promote and coordinate the study of matters of common interest and the exchange of information;
- e) to establish and maintain relations with other broadcasting unions and with other relevant organisations;
- f) to promote regional and international mutual understanding and cooperation through the medium of broadcasting;
- g) to help broadcasters harness resources for capacity building through co-operative activities with development agencies and other international organisations;
- h) to promote the discussion of professional ethics and standards amongst member organisations;
- i) to use its best endeavours to ensure that all members respect the provisions of international agreements relating to all aspects of broadcasting;
- j) to encourage and facilitate the exchange of expertise between members;
- k) to seek and negotiate the rights to sports and other major events on behalf of participating members;
- l) to operate and promote a news exchange service;
- m) to expand the membership of the Union; and
- n) to seek within the framework of the ABU, and in the spirit of mutual cooperation, the resolution of any differences that may arise.

5. With these objectives in view, the ABU shall employ all appropriate means by study or action and, in particular:
 - a) shall establish and maintain permanent services to carry out its day-to-day business;
 - b) may collect and keep up-to-date documents and other materials and issue publications on matters concerned with broadcasting;
 - c) may set up Committees and/or Study Groups for the examination of any particular subject relating to broadcasting;
 - d) may acquire or obtain the use of any land, buildings, installations, equipment and/or materials necessary to achieve its purposes; and
 - e) may assist members in negotiations of any kind or may itself negotiate on behalf of members, at their request.

Article 3: MEMBERSHIP

1. Members of the ABU shall be divided into the following five categories:
 - a) Full members
 - b) Additional Full members
 - c) Associate members
 - d) Affiliate members
 - e) Institutional members
2. There may be only two Full members per country.
3. Subject to clause 2 above, free-to-air broadcasting organisations in independent countries in the ABU region may apply for Full or Additional Full membership, provided:

- a) they provide broadcasting services of a national character or national importance in the countries of their location; and
 - b) they actually produce and/or commission under their own editorial control a substantial proportion of their programme output.
4. Free-to-air broadcasting organisations in non-independent areas in the ABU region may apply for Additional Full or Associate membership, provided they fulfill the conditions in clause 3, a) and b) above.
 5. The following may apply for Associate membership:
 - a) Free-to-air broadcasting organisations outside the ABU region, provided they fulfill the conditions in clause 3 a) and b) above.
 - b) International free-to-air broadcasting organisations within and outside the ABU region.
 - c) International subscription broadcasting organisations within and outside the ABU region.
 - d) Domestic subscription broadcasting organisations within and outside the ABU region.
 - e) Sub-national/provincial free-to-air broadcasting organisations.
 - f) National associations of broadcasting organisations.
 6. Organisations that do not qualify for Full, Additional Full or Associate membership may apply for Affiliate or Institutional membership under Article 5.
 7. Additional Full members and Associate members may enjoy the same rights as Full members except as otherwise provided in these Statutes.
 8. Applications for membership, except for Institutional membership, shall be submitted in writing to the President of the ABU through the Secretariat.
 9. Admission for Full, Additional Full, and Associate membership shall be granted only if it is approved by a simple majority of the total of Full

members. If voting is done by balloting and the number of votes cast after thirty days is less than the majority of the total of Full members, admission will be granted on the basis of a simple majority of a quorum of the Full members.

In addition, admission for Associate membership by domestic subscription broadcasting organisations and sub-national/provincial free-to-air broadcasters shall be granted only if the required number of votes above includes the approval of any and all Full members in the country of the organisation applying for membership.

10. Admission for Affiliate and Institutional membership shall be granted upon a simple majority vote of the Administrative Council.
11. Associate members may upgrade their membership to Full or Additional Full membership, subject to the approval of the Administrative Council, and provided that they fulfill the applicable conditions in these Statutes including clause 3 a) and b) above.
12. Affiliate members who change the nature of their business by engaging in free-to-air or subscription broadcasting after their admission shall be required to upgrade their membership to Full, Additional Full or Associate membership, whichever is applicable, subject to the necessary approval under clause 9 above, and provided that they fulfill the applicable conditions in these Statutes including clause 3 a) and b) above.
13. Any broadcasting organisation that meets the membership requirements and applies for Full membership may initially be accepted as an Additional Full member. After five years of its application if the seat for Full membership remains open the said Additional Full member may be upgraded to a Full membership, subject to the approval of the Administrative Council.
14. For the purpose of the ABU Membership, the Pacific Islands of the ABU region comprises of Fiji, Kiribati, Marshall Islands, Nauru Islands, Norfolk Islands, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, French Polynesia, New Caledonia, Niue, Palau, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

Article 4: RESIGNATION

1. Any member may resign from the ABU by giving written notice to the President through the Secretariat. The resigning member shall remain liable for all its financial obligations to the ABU up to the date of resignation. The resignation shall be deemed to take effect from the end of the month in which the resignation notice is received at the ABU Secretariat.
2. Any member which has resigned from the ABU and any successor to its rights shall cease to have any rights in the assets of the ABU as from the date of its resignation.

Article 5: AFFILIATE AND INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

1. Affiliate membership shall be open to interested organisations having a professional connection with broadcasting, which do not qualify for Full, Additional Full or Associate membership but wish to have an association with the ABU.
2. Institutional membership may be granted to interested international organisations whose membership is, in the opinion of the ABU, beneficial to the ABU and which do not qualify for Full, Additional Full or Associate membership. Institutional members may enjoy the same rights as Affiliate members except as otherwise provided in these Statutes.
3. Affiliate and Institutional members shall be invited to attend the annual General Assembly as observer organisations and to attend the social functions associated with the Assembly. They may be invited to attend other ABU meetings, functions and activities from time to time at the discretion of the President and/or the Chairperson of the Committee concerned. However, they shall not enjoy any of the privileges of Full, Additional Full or Associate membership.
4. Affiliate members shall be required to pay an annual fee, the amount of which shall be determined by the General Assembly and membership will take effect after payment of the first year's subscription.

Article 6: SUSPENSION, CESSATION OF MEMBERSHIP AND EXPULSION OF MEMBERS

1. Any member no longer fulfilling the conditions stipulated in Article 3 shall cease to be a member of the ABU by decision of the General Assembly.
2.
 - a) If any member commits a breach of any of the provisions of these Statutes or refuses to carry out a decision of the General Assembly, it may be expelled from the ABU by decision of the General Assembly.
 - b) If any member fails to pay its subscriptions or to meet any other financial obligations that are outstanding for more than two fiscal years, it shall not be entitled to any privilege from or participate in activities of the ABU until such time as it has settled such subscriptions and financial obligations. If the defaulting member fails to settle the said subscriptions and financial obligations prior to the next meeting of the Administrative Council, the defaulting member shall be suspended by decision of the Administrative Council and shall lose its rights in the ABU until such time as all its obligations have been fully met. Any suspended member will not be invoiced for future subscriptions after the suspension of membership.
 - c) If during the suspension of a Full member, an application for Full membership is received by the Secretariat from a broadcasting organisation in the country of the suspended member, the Secretariat shall require the suspended member to settle all its outstanding obligations within one calendar month in order to reactivate its Full membership. If the suspended member fails to comply with this requirement, the Secretariat may proceed to process the application for Full membership from the other broadcasting organisation.
 - d) If any member fails to pay its subscriptions or to meet any other financial obligations that are outstanding for more than three fiscal years, it may be expelled from the ABU.
 - e) All Full, Additional Full, and Associate members shall be notified of any proposal for cessation of membership or the expulsion of a member at least eight weeks prior to the date of the session of the General Assembly at which the said proposal will be placed on the agenda.

- f) If any member commits a breach of any of the provisions of these Statutes other than failure to pay subscription or outstanding financial obligations under the provisions of these Statutes in which case clause 2 b), c) and d) of Article 6 shall apply, or refuses to carry out a decision of the General Assembly or violates or fails to adhere to any of the ABU's regulations, codes or agreements and fails to rectify or remedy the breach or violation within three (3) days from receipt of a written notice from the President specifying the breach or violation, it may be suspended by a unanimous decision of the President and the Vice-Presidents in office at the time. Such action may only be taken if the matter is considered by the President to be urgent and requiring action before the next meeting of the Administrative Council. Such suspension will remain in force until either the breach is rectified or, in the case of breaches of a provision of the Statutes, the matter has been considered by the General Assembly in accordance with clause 2 a) of Article 6. A suspended member shall lose its rights in the ABU until such time as the breach is rectified and the President and the Vice-Presidents or Administrative Council, or General Assembly, agree to lift the suspension. A member suspended under this clause will remain liable for payment of its subscription up to the end of the financial year in which the suspension takes effect. If the suspension is still in effect at the end of the financial year, no further subscription invoices will be issued until such time as the suspension is lifted.
3. For Full, Additional Full and Associate, no decision by the General Assembly shall be reached regarding cessation of membership or the expulsion of a member unless it is approved by a simple majority of the total of Full members.
 4. For Affiliate members, cessation of membership or expulsion shall be by majority decision of the Administrative Council. On an annual basis, the Administrative Council shall review the list of Institutional members and decide on the continuation of their membership.
 5. Any member ceasing to be a member in accordance with the provisions of clause 1 or clause 2 of this Article shall be liable for all its financial obligations to the ABU.
 6. Clause 2 of Article 4 shall apply to any member ceasing to be a member of the ABU under the provisions of clause 1 or clause 2 of this Article.

Article 7: GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1. The General Assembly shall be the supreme body of the ABU and, subject to the provisions of these Statutes, shall have all the powers necessary to achieve the objectives of the ABU. It shall comprise all the Full, Additional Full, and Associate members.
2. The General Assembly shall meet once a year in ordinary session. The General Assembly may meet in extraordinary session when convened in accordance with Article 10.
3. Only Full members shall have the right to vote in the General Assembly except that the Additional Full members have the right to vote when electing their own number to seats on the Administrative Council under clause 2 of Article 8. When in any country there is only one Full member, that member shall have two votes only for the re-election and when there are two Full members in a country, each has one vote. For new election, each Full member will have one vote only, irrespective of the number of Full members in a country.
4.
 - a) Each Full, Additional Full, and Associate member may be represented at the sessions of the General Assembly by a delegation or a representative of its own choice.
 - b) Each Full member may delegate in writing its voting rights to another Full member, notifying such delegation of voting rights to the President. This procedure regarding voting rights shall apply also to Additional Full members when electing their members to the Administrative Council.
 - c) No Full member or Additional Full member may accept such delegation of voting rights from more than one other Full member or Additional Full member respectively.
5. The agenda of the ordinary session of the General Assembly shall include:
 - a) approval of the minutes of the preceding ordinary session of the General Assembly and of any extraordinary session that may have been held in the interim;

- b) the reports of the Administrative Council, when appropriate, and of the Secretary-General on the activities of the ABU since the last ordinary session of the General Assembly and, in particular, on the measures taken to implement the decisions of the General Assembly;
- c) the report of the auditor or auditors;
- d) examination and approval of the accounts for the preceding fiscal year;
- e) appointment of the auditor or auditors for the current fiscal year;
- f) approval of the activities and the budget for the next fiscal year;
- g) when necessary, revising the value of the subscription unit;
- h) fixing the date and the venue of the next ordinary session of the General Assembly;
- i) election of members to vacant seats on the Administrative Council;
- j) election of the President and/or Vice-President or Vice-Presidents whenever necessary;
- k) the reports of Committees and of Study Groups established by the General Assembly;
- l) items requested by the Administrative Council or proposals submitted by members under clause 3 of Article 11; and
- m) other matters that the General Assembly has been authorised to determine under the provisions of these Statutes.

Article 8: ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

1. The Administrative Council shall consist of 18 Councillors and the Council in the exercise of its functions shall represent the ABU. The office of Councillor is honorary.

2. a) One seat on the Administrative Council shall belong as of right to one of the Full members of the country where the seat of the ABU is established. Another seat on the Administrative Council shall belong as of right to one of the Full members of the country where the foundation site of the ABU is located. Another seat on the Administrative Council shall belong as of right to one elected representative among the Full Members and Additional Full Members from the Pacific Islands of the ABU Region under Clause 14 Article 3. Of the remaining 15, which shall be elected at the General Assembly, four shall be elected by Full members from the Full members in Subscription Groups A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, and L as defined in clause 2 (c) of Article 16, seven shall be elected by Full members from the Full members in the remaining Subscription Groups, and the remaining four shall be elected by the Additional Full members from among their own number.
 - b) Elections to the Administrative Council should seek to ensure an appropriate balance of representation throughout the region.
 - c) In the event of a tie in voting by the Administrative Council, the said candidates shall draw lots and the winner shall be deemed elected.
 - d) If any elected Administrative Council member fails to be represented in two consecutive meetings of the Administrative Council, the President shall send a letter requesting the said member to explain their absence. This information shall then be shared with all members of the Administrative Council. If the said member misses the third consecutive meeting, that member will automatically lose its seat at the Administrative Council.
3. a) The seats on the Administrative Council shall be held by members for a period of three consecutive calendar years.
 - b) A Full member elected to a seat on the Administrative Council shall retain its seat on the Council for the term for which it was elected regardless of any subsequent change in its Subscription Group classification.
 - c) A Full or Additional Full member elected to a seat on the Administrative Council shall vacate its seat on the Council when it ceases to be a Full or Additional Full member or is suspended under Article 4 and 6.

- d) The first election of a member to a seat on the Administrative Council shall be determined by a simple majority vote. A member may be re-elected only by obtaining three-quarters of the votes of the members concerned, present or represented, through the online voting conducted before the General Assembly.
4. Each member holding a seat on the Administrative Council shall appoint its Councillor and an alternate, whose appointments shall not become effective until notified to the President. Each Councillor shall have one vote which shall not be delegated to another member.
5. The General Assembly shall take steps as soon as possible to fill the seat on the Administrative Council of any member resigning from the Council, losing its seat at the Council under Clause 2 (d) Article 8, resigning from the ABU, or having ceased its membership, suspended or expelled from the ABU. The replacing member shall complete the vacating member's term of office; this period, however long, shall not be taken into account in determining the replacing member's eligibility for re-election.
6. The Administrative Council shall meet at least once a year between sessions of the General Assembly.
7. The Administrative Council shall:
 - a) hold, between the ordinary sessions of the General Assembly, and subject to subsequent ratification by the latter, all the rights and powers of the General Assembly except those which the Assembly reserves to itself by explicit decision;
 - b) ensure that the decisions of the General Assembly are implemented;
 - c) report, as appropriate, on the activities of the ABU to each ordinary session of the General Assembly and, after each of its own mid-year meetings, send all Full, Additional Full, and Associate members a report on the meeting concerned;
 - d) examine and make recommendations on applications for ABU membership before such applications are submitted to the Full

members for voting, giving full consideration to any views on such applications expressed by the existing Full, Additional

Full, and Associate members in the country or area concerned;

- e) propose to the General Assembly any cessation of membership or the expulsion of Full, Additional Full and Associate members;
- f) consider and recommend to the General Assembly the establishment of Committees or Study Groups which it considers useful;
- g) receive and consider reports of the Committees and Study Groups with a view to making recommendations to the General Assembly;
- h) consider and make recommendations to the General Assembly on the draft budget as submitted by the Secretary-General for the following fiscal year;
- i) make proposals to the General Assembly on the appointment or dismissal of the Secretary-General and on the amount of the Secretary-General's salary and additional allowances and other conditions of appointment; appoint and dismiss staff; determine their duties and fix their salaries and additional allowances and other conditions of employment, within the limits of budget: the Council may, however, delegate all or part of these latter powers to the Secretary-General;
- j) perform within the limits of the budget all legal acts, both in respect of disposal and of administration, necessary to achieve the objectives of the ABU but with power to delegate daytoday business to the Secretary-General;
- k) recommend to the General Assembly the value of the subscription unit as provided in Article 16;
- l) take the necessary steps upon receiving any proposal submitted by a member organisation through the Secretary-General;
- m) consider and instruct the Secretariat to enter into special arrangements with any member who has been suspended or expelled and who wants to reactivate its membership with the ABU. Provided

that any such special arrangement with any expelled member shall be subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

8. The Administrative Council acting for the General Assembly may set up joint committees with organisations outside the ABU.

Article 9: PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENTS

1. The General Assembly shall elect from among the Councillors nominated by the Full members holding seats on the Administrative Council a President and from among the Councillors nominated by the Full and Additional Full members on the Council four Vice-Presidents who shall also assume these respective functions on the Administrative Council. The terms of office of the President and the Vice-Presidents shall each be for three years.
2. Provided, that a President or Vice-President who is elected to a vacant position shall immediately serve office upon election and shall continue to serve office for three years starting from the first day of the year following the General Assembly in which the President or Vice-Presidents were elected.
3. The President and the Vice-Presidents are eligible for re-election to office providing that the members whom they represent hold their seats on the Council.
4. In the event that a member providing a Vice-President ceases to be a member of the Administrative Council, because of the expiration of its 3-year term under Article 8, Clause 3 or resignation from the Administrative Council, before the expiry of the Vice-President's term of office, the Vice-President concerned may continue to serve in this office until the expiry of the Vice-President's term of office. Such a Vice-President may attend Administrative Council meetings but shall not have the right to vote on issues before the Council.
5. In the event of the absence or inability of the President, the President's functions shall be performed by the Vice-President who has served for the longest period in that office or, if the Vice-President is also absent or unable to carry out the duties, by the Vice-President who has served for second-longest period, or, if the Vice-President is also absent or

unable to carry out the duties, by the remaining Vice-President. If all of the available Vice-

Presidents have served for the same period, the functions shall be performed by the oldest of them, unless the General Assembly or the Administrative Council decides otherwise.

6. In the event of a situation arising in which there is no Vice-President in office, the Administrative Council shall have the power to appoint, from among the serving Councillors, an acting Vice-President who shall carry out the duties of the post until elections for Vice-Presidents are held at the next General Assembly.
7. The President and the Vice-Presidents shall be deemed to have been elected to their respective offices only by virtue of and in relation to the offices which they hold in the field of broadcasting in their own countries, either as the chief executive or their deputy in the case of a public corporation or private company or as a senior broadcasting executive of equivalent standing in the case of an organisation which is a department of Government. On vacating their broadcasting office the President or a Vice-President shall be deemed to have simultaneously vacated the office of President or Vice-President.
8. Unless powers are specially delegated, all contractual engagements binding the ABU other than those concerning its day-to-day routine business shall be signed by the President and the Secretary-General.
9. It shall be the responsibility of the President with the Secretary-General to conduct any legal proceedings in the name of the ABU whether as plaintiff or defendant.
10. The President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary-General and such other employees of the Secretariat, as may from time to time be designated by the President, shall be indemnified out of the property and funds of the ABU against any liability incurred by them in defending or initiating any proceedings in any court, whether civil or criminal, in respect of or as a result of their official duties.

Article 10: CONVENING OF MEETINGS

1. The ordinary and extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly shall be convened by the President. The President shall convene the General Assembly for an extraordinary session upon request of at least one-third of the total of Full members or at least one third of the total of Full and Additional Full members. Such requests by members shall be submitted to the President through the Secretariat.
2. If the President does not, within two (2) months after the date of the receipt of the written request, proceed to convene the General Assembly for an extraordinary session, the members who requested for the session shall convene the session by giving notice to Full and Additional Full members in accordance with Clause 4 Article 10.
3. The ordinary meetings of the Administrative Council required by clause 6 of Article 8 shall be convened by the President. The President shall also be required to convene a meeting of the Council if so requested by no less than four of its members. Such requests by members shall be submitted to the President through the Secretariat.
4. Notices convening a session of the General Assembly shall be dispatched by registered airmail in time to reach Full, Additional Full, and Associate members at least 16 weeks prior to the date fixed for the session and, in the case of a meeting of the Administrative Council, at least eight weeks. In convening an extraordinary session of the General Assembly, however, the period of the advance notice may in case of urgent necessity be shortened to eight weeks. Similarly an urgent meeting of the Administrative Council may be summoned at four weeks' notice by the President.

**Article 11: AGENDA FOR SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL
ASSEMBLY AND
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL**

1. The agenda for every session of the General Assembly and every meeting of the Administrative Council shall be submitted by the Secretary-General to the President for the President's approval. The Secretary-General shall take reasonable steps to ensure that the agenda reaches Full, Additional Full, and Associate members not less than eight weeks prior to the date of the session and, in the case of a meeting of the Administrative Council, not less than three weeks.

2. No decision may be taken by the General Assembly on any subject which is not on the agenda unless consent for its inclusion is obtained from not less than half of the Full members present or represented.
3. Any Full, Additional Full, and Associate member shall have the right to propose items for the agenda of an Administrative Council meeting or an ordinary session of the General Assembly through the Secretariat. Such items shall not be placed on the agenda of the said meeting or session unless notification has been received by the Secretariat at least 15 weeks prior to the date of the Council meeting or the ordinary session of the General Assembly.

Article 12: LANGUAGE AND WORKING PROCEDURE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

1. English shall be the official language of the ABU.
2. The President may allow the use of a language other than English provided that an immediate translation into English is available.
3. The General Assembly cannot make any valid decision unless a simple majority of Full members are present or represented. If this quorum is not available, another ordinary session shall be convened within a period of not less than three days and not more than 10 days. Subject to the provisions of clause 9 of Article 3, clause 3 of Article 6, clause 3 of Article 19 and clause 3 of Article 20, the decisions made at the reconvened session of the General Assembly shall be valid regardless of the number of members present or represented. The Administrative Council cannot make any valid decisions unless the majority of the Councillors are present.
4. The President shall preside over the plenary sessions of the General Assembly. The Vice-Presidents shall assist the President and one shall act as President in the latter's absence.
5. The Secretary-General shall be in charge of administrative and secretarial arrangements of the General Assembly and the Administrative Council.

6. A register of attendance shall be kept by the Secretary-General for each sitting of every session of the General Assembly and every meeting of the Administrative Council.
7. The minutes of each sitting of the General Assembly and each meeting of the Administrative Council shall be prepared by the Secretary-General and submitted to the President for the President's approval and signature. The minutes shall be confirmed at the next sitting or ordinary session of the General Assembly or at the next meeting of the Administrative Council, respectively.
8. When voting is necessary, the following procedures shall be adopted:
 - a) Unless otherwise provided for in these Statutes, any proposal, in order to be considered as accepted, shall obtain more than half of the votes validly cast. In case of a tie, there shall be a second vote. If the second voting still results in a tie, the proposal shall be considered as rejected.
 - b) Voting shall be by show of hands unless a nominal vote is requested by two or more of the Full members present, except that, in the election of members of the Administrative Council and of the President and the Vice-Presidents or whenever requested by three or more of the Full members present, a secret ballot shall be employed.
 - c) In case the requisite majority is not produced in the election of the President or the Vice-Presidents or of the members of the Administrative Council there shall be a second vote and if necessary a third. If the third vote still fails to produce the requisite majority, the candidate with the highest number of votes shall be deemed elected, and if two or more candidates obtain an equal number of votes, the said two candidates shall draw lots and the winner shall be deemed elected.
 - g) In case of an urgent matter occurring during the interim between the sessions of the General Assembly or meetings of the Administrative Council, if such matter requires decision by the General Assembly or the Council, the President may take a vote by post or facsimile, and the decision shall be subject to ratification by the subsequent General Assembly or meeting of the Council.
 - e) Full or Additional Full members losing their rights in the

ABU under Article 4 and clauses 2 a), 2 b) and 2 f) of Article 6 shall not be counted in the total number of the Full or Additional Full members voting or in the quorum of the meetings concerned.

9. In the absence of any decision to the contrary, the deliberations of the General Assembly and of the Administrative Council and all documents relative thereto shall be confidential.
10. Details of the working procedure of the General Assembly and the Administrative Council other than those provided for in these Statutes shall be decided from time to time at each session.

Article 13: ACCESS TO SESSIONS OF THE GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL ASSEMBLY AND MEETINGS OF THE

1. Access to sessions of the General Assembly and meetings of the Administrative Council shall be limited to the delegations and representatives of the Full, Additional Full, and Associate members except that the President may authorise or invite any persons or representatives of any organisation whose opinion is considered to be useful in the relevant discussions.

Article 14: COMMITTEES AND STUDY GROUPS

1. There shall be Standing Programme and Technical Committees and the General Assembly may establish such other Committees and Study Groups as it considers necessary to make recommendations through the Administrative Council on matters within their specialist fields or on subjects specifically assigned to them.
2. Committees may establish Sub-Committees or Working Parties to report on matters requiring special study within the field of activity of the Committee concerned.

3. The Administrative Council may establish Study Groups to examine and report on matters not within the competence of the Standing Committees.
4. The activities of Committees, Study Groups, Sub-Committees and Working Parties shall be confined to the terms of reference as assigned to them at the time of their establishment, unless subsequently amended.
5. The Administrative Council may appoint the Chairmen of the Study Groups established by it or the General Assembly.
Committees may elect their own Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson and may appoint the Chairperson of Sub-Committees or Working Parties established by them.
6. The Chairpersonship and, where relevant, Vice-Chairpersonship of Committees, Study Groups, Sub-Committees and Working Parties shall be elected in accordance with the terms of reference of each committee, study groups or working parties (as the case may be).

Article 15: PERMANENT SERVICES

1. The ABU shall establish and maintain a Secretariat as a permanent service at its seat.
2. The General Assembly shall appoint or dismiss the Secretary-General after considering the recommendations of the Administrative Council; the initial period of such appointment shall be not less than three years.
3. As the chief executive officer of the ABU, the Secretary-General shall be responsible for the administration and supervision of the Secretariat. The Secretary-General shall assist the President generally and, subject to approval by the President in dealing with matters of policy, shall, in particular:
 - a) carry out the administrative and secretarial work connected with meetings of the General Assembly and the Administrative Council and afford necessary assistance to Committees and Study Groups;
 - b) implement the decisions of the General Assembly and the Administrative Council;

- c) prepare the draft budget;
- d) organise seminars, workshops and other appropriate activities as approved by the General Assembly or the Administrative Council;
- e) collect and keep up-to-date materials and issue publications as deemed necessary;
- f) submit the annual returns of the ABU to the Registrar of Societies, Malaysia, within 60 days after the holding of the General Assembly as required under Section 14 (1) of the Societies Act 1966, Malaysia;
- g) assist Full, Additional Full, and Associate members in the exchange of programmes and in the training of broadcasting personnel;
- h) communicate with and maintain liaison with other organisations;
- i) administer and control the property and funds of the ABU; and
- j) perform such other appropriate duties as directed by the President.

Article 16: FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

1. Each member of the ABU, except for Institutional members, shall pay a subscription for each fiscal year.
2.
 - a) The value of the subscription unit shall be the same for all categories of members, except Affiliate members, and shall be fixed at the ordinary sessions of the General Assembly.
 - b) In determining the number of subscription units to be borne by each member, Full, Additional Full, and Associate members shall be classified into one of 23 groups on the basis of their gross operational expenditures for their previous fiscal year. Gross operational expenditure for this purpose shall be the actual gross monies paid out

in operating the broadcasting services, including all payments to external content providers, producers, contractors and consultants, but excluding capital expenditure on infrastructure and hardware.

- c) The amount of the subscription payable by each Full member shall be calculated by multiplying the value of the subscription unit by the number of units for the group in which the member is placed in the Table of Subscription Groups shown hereunder:

Table of Subscription Groups

<i>Group</i>		<i>Operational Expenditure in US Dollars</i>	<i>Number of Units</i>
A	Under	200,000	1
B	”	350,000	2
C	”	600,000	3
D	”	1,000,000	4
E	”	1,500,000	5
F	”	2,150,000	6
G	”	2,950,000	7
H	”	4,000,000	8
I	”	5,200,000	9
J	”	7,100,000	10
K	”	9,500,000	12
L	”	12,500,000	15
M	”	16,200,000	19
N	”	21,000,000	24
O	”	27,000,000	30
P	”	35,000,000	37
Q	”	46,000,000	45
R	”	60,000,000	55
S	”	80,000,000	67
T	”	110,000,000	82
U	”	350,000,000	100
V	”	500,000,000	115
W	”	500,000,000 and over	130

- d) The amount of the subscription payable by each Additional Full member shall be 70 percent of that payable by Full members in the

same subscription group provided that in no case shall the number of units payable be less than one.

- e) The amount of the subscription payable by each Associate member shall be 50 percent of that payable by Full members in the same subscription group provided that in no case shall the number of units payable be less than one or more than 20.
 - f) The amount of the subscription payable by each Domestic Subscription or Sub-national/Provincial free-to-air member shall be 30 percent of that payable by Full members in the same subscription group provided that in no case shall the number of units payable be less than one or more than 20.
3. Unless otherwise provided in these Statutes, any Full, Additional Full and Associate member joining the ABU during the course of a fiscal year shall be liable for payment of one-twelfth of the annual subscription for each full calendar month still to run until the end of the fiscal year.
 4. Subscriptions shall be payable at the beginning of the fiscal year. However, at the request of a member and under justifiable circumstances, the President may authorise a deferment of payment or payment by instalments.
 5. The budget and the accounts of the ABU shall be drawn up in United States dollars. Payments of subscriptions shall also be made in United States dollars.
 6. The financial obligation of members shall be limited to the amount of their subscriptions except where any special service has been undertaken by the ABU at the request of any member, in which case an appropriate additional sum may be payable as determined by the Administrative Council.
 7. The ABU shall be liable for its contractual engagements to third parties only to the full extent of its assets.

Article 17: FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING

1. The fiscal year shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31 of each year.
2. The books, ledgers and accounts shall be closed on December 31 of each year.
3. The auditor or auditors appointed by the General Assembly shall submit to the General Assembly during its ordinary session a report on the management of the funds of the ABU and the statement of accounts for the previous fiscal year.
4. The financial resources of the ABU shall comprise:
 - a) subscriptions of members;
 - b) payments from members for work specially undertaken or services specially rendered by the ABU at their request;
 - c) receipts from sale of publications and other services;
 - d) subsidies and donations, and
 - e) interest on funds available to the ABU.
5. Surplus ABU funds, other than those placed in interest-bearing deposits in national or commercial banks, shall be invested only in securities which are government backed or of trust-fund status.

Article 18: PROHIBITIONS

1. In order to comply with the requirements of the Registrar of Societies, Singapore, in respect of the ABU's registration as a society in Singapore, the ABU shall be subject to the following prohibitions:
 - a) Gambling of any kind, excluding the promotion or conduct of a private lottery which has been permitted under the Private Lotteries Act Cap 250, is forbidden on the ABU's premises. The introduction of materials for gambling or drug taking and of bad characters into the premises is prohibited.

- b) The funds of the ABU shall not be used to pay the fines of members who have been convicted in court of law.
 - c) The ABU shall not engage in any trade union activity as defined in any written law relating to trade unions for the time being in force in Singapore.
 - d) The ABU shall not indulge in any political activity or allow its funds and/or premises to be used for political purposes.
 - e) The ABU shall not hold any lottery, whether confined to its members or not, in the name of the ABU or its office-bearers, Administrative Council or members unless with the prior approval of the relevant authorities.
 - f) The ABU shall not raise funds from the public for whatever purpose without the prior approval in writing of the Assistant Director Operations, Licensing Division, Singapore Police Force and other relevant authorities.
2. In order to comply with the requirements of the Registrar of Societies, Malaysia, in respect of the ABU's registration as a society in Malaysia, the ABU shall be subject to the following prohibitions:
- a) None of the following games shall be played in the premises of the ABU: Roulette, Lotto, Fan Tan, Poh, Peh Bin, Balankai, Pai Kau, Tau Ngau, Tien Ngau, Tien Kow, Chap Ji Kee, Sam Cheong, Twenty-One, Ten and a half, all games of dice, banker's games, all video games and all games of mere chance.
 - b) Neither the ABU nor its members shall attempt to restrict or in any other manner interfere with the trade or prices or engage in any Trade Union activities as defined in the Trade Union Act, 1959.
 - c) The ABU shall not hold any lottery, whether confined to its members or not, in the name of the ABU, its office-bearers or members without prior approval from the authorities concerned.
 - d) "Benefits" as mentioned under Section 2 of the Societies Act 1966 shall not be given by the ABU to any of its members.

Article 19: AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES

1. Proposals for amendments to these Statutes may be made only by the Administrative Council, Full members or Additional Full members.
2. The General Assembly shall not make a decision on a proposal or proposals to amend these Statutes unless the proposal or proposals have been emailed to Full, Additional Full, and Associate members by the Secretariat and acknowledgements have been received at least eight weeks prior to the commencing date of the General Assembly concerned. Any Full, Additional Full, and Associate member wishing to make such a proposal or proposals shall email to the Secretary-General and ensure such an email is received at least 15 weeks prior to the commencing date of the General Assembly concerned.
3. No decision on a proposal or proposals to amend these Statutes shall be taken by the General Assembly unless approved by at least three-quarters of the total of the Full members.
4. Amendments to the Statutes shall take effect from the date of their approval by the Registrar of Societies, Malaysia. Such amendments shall be forwarded to the Registrar of Societies, Malaysia, within 60 days of being passed by the General Assembly.

Article 20: DISSOLUTION OF THE UNION

1. Proposals relating to the dissolution of the ABU may be made only by the Administrative Council or by Full members. Any such proposals by Full members shall be emailed to the Secretary-General, who shall, send an acknowledgement of receiving the email and at the earliest opportunity, bring the proposals to the notice of the President.
2. A proposal or proposals to dissolve the ABU shall be deliberated upon only at an extraordinary session of the General Assembly, especially convened for that purpose in accordance with the provisions of clause 1 of Article 10, and a notice by the President convening such an extraordinary session, together with the proposal or proposals, shall be emailed to Full, Additional Full, and Associate members by the Secretariat at least eight weeks prior to the date fixed for the session.

3. No decision on a proposal or proposals to dissolve the ABU shall be taken unless approved by at least three-quarters of the total of the Full members.
4. Notice of dissolution shall be forwarded to the Registrar of Societies, Malaysia, within fourteen (14) days of its dissolution.
5. In the event of dissolution, all debts and liabilities legally incurred on behalf of the ABU shall be fully discharged. The net assets of the ABU shall be disposed of by decision of the General Assembly, preferably as a donation to an appropriate international organisation.
6. The General Assembly in deciding the dissolution shall appoint a Liquidation Committee consisting of at least three persons who may be chosen from outside the ABU.

Article 21: FINAL PROVISIONS

1. These Statutes, which were originally adopted at the Fifth Asian Broadcasters' Conference in Seoul in October 1963, came into force on July 1, 1964 and incorporate amendments made by the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 7th, 8th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 19th, 20th, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 30th, 33rd, 36th, 39th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 45th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd and 58th, 61st, and 62nd General Assemblies.
2. Notwithstanding clause 4 of Article 1, broadcasting organisations which were Full members of the ABU as at November 1, 1971 shall retain their Full membership.