

**SCG**Schweizerische
Chemische
Gesellschaft**SSC**Société
Suisse
de Chimie**SCS**Swiss
Chemical
Society

Bylaws of the Swiss Chemical Society

Version: September 5, 2009

I Name and object

Article 1 Name

- 1.1 The "SWISS CHEMICAL SOCIETY" (SCS), hereafter called "the Society", is an association in the sense of Article 60 ff of the Swiss Civil Code, with its domicile in Berne and registered in the Company Register.
- 1.2 The name SCS replaces the name NSCS (New Swiss Chemical Society) that had existed since 14 February 1992, date of the merger of the old Swiss Chemical Society and the Swiss Chemical Association.

Article 2 Object

The Society has the following objectives:

- 2.1 The promotion of scientific activities in all domains of chemistry, in particular through the organisation of scientific conferences, lectures and specialist groups.
- 2.2 Information, discussion and training in the domain of chemistry and other related sciences and in the ethical, ecological and sociopolitical issues related to these.
- 2.3 Effective representation of the interests of academia and industry through the inclusion in the Society of as many Swiss organisations with a commitment to the domain of chemistry as possible.
- 2.4 Promotion of the interests of Swiss organisations with a commitment to chemistry that are associated to the Society.
- 2.5 Representation of chemistry to the authorities, the industry and the public in questions of expertise.
- 2.6 The safeguarding and promotion of the interests of chemists in international organisations.
- 2.7 Organisation of the ILMAC trade fair, the copyright for which is owned by the Society.
- 2.8 Publication of the journal CHIMIA (international chemistry journal and official journal of the Society).
- 2.9 Appointment of an editorial board responsible by agreement with the publishing house Wiley-VCH for determining the scientific orientation of the journal Helvetica Chimica Acta, the copyright for which is owned by the Society.

II Serving the public interest

Article 3 SCS Foundation

- 3.1 Projects and tasks that serve the public interest will be supported by the SCS Foundation.
- 3.2 The SCS Foundation organises and manages projects serving the public interest and finances these in accordance with its rules.

III Membership

Article 4 Joining the Society

- 4.1 The Society pursues its objective of encouraging scientific activities in all domains of chemistry by striving to maintain as fully representative a membership as possible.
- 4.2 Individuals, companies, institutes and societies active in or interested in the domains of chemistry may join the Society.

- 4.3 Applications for membership must be sent in writing to the Secretariat of the Society. The Executive Director will decide whether to accept the application. In cases of doubt the Committee will decide.
- 4.4 Swiss specialist and professional organisations may join the Society as Divisions or as collective members. The members of specialist or professional organisations that join as Divisions automatically become members of the Society.

Article 5 Honorary members

- 5.1 Persons who have rendered outstanding services to the Society or distinguished themselves in the field of chemistry may be appointed as honorary members.
Honorary members enjoy the same rights as other members.
- 5.2 The conditions for the awarding of honorary membership are set out in the Society's rules on awards.

Article 6 Rights and obligations of members

- 6.1 Every member has voting rights and is eligible to stand for election. In the case of corporate membership these rights are exercised by an authorised delegate. The rights of collective members are exercised by authorised delegates and are set out in a separate ruling.
- 6.2 Every member may join one or several Divisions.
- 6.3 Members must safeguard the Society's interests and – with the exception of honorary members – pay the annual membership fee. This is set at a reduced level for students and retired persons and a higher level for corporate members.

Article 7 Resignation and exclusion of members

- 7.1 Members may resign from the Society at the end of a calendar year, provided that the Secretariat has been notified in writing at least three months in advance.
- 7.2 The Committee may decide to exclude a member from the Society.

IV Organisation

Article 8 Organs

- The organs of the Society are:
- the General Assembly
 - the Committee
 - the Board of Directors
 - the Divisions and the Departments
 - the Auditing body

Article 9 The General Assembly (GA)

- 9.1 The ordinary GA is held annually. An extraordinary GA may be called to deal with urgent matters at the decision of the Committee or at the request of at least 10% of the membership. Written notification to attend the meetings must be sent out at least 20 (twenty) days in advance, together with the agenda.
- 9.2 Proposed items for the agenda of the GA must be sent to the Secretariat of the Society in writing at least 14 (fourteen) days before the meeting.
- 9.3 The GA is chaired by the President of the Society. If he is unable to chair the meeting it will be chaired by the Vice-President or by another member of the Committee.

- 9.4 The General Assembly has competence in the following:
- Election of tellers
 - Approval of the agenda
 - Approval of the minutes, annual report and annual accounts and the report from the Auditing body, and approval of the actions of the Committee
 - Determination of the membership fees, apart from the fee for collective members
 - Election of the President and other members of the Committee (while striving to obtain as balanced a representation as possible of the universities, the industry and the different language regions)
 - Confirmation of the Presidents nominated by the Divisions as members of the Committee
 - Election of the members of the Auditing body or appointment of an external Auditing body
 - Approval of the Statutes and of any amendments to these
 - Decisions on the creation and dissolution of Divisions and the acceptance of specialist and professional organisations as Divisions
 - The dissolution of the Society and the allocation of the financial means available at this time.
- 9.5 Every correctly called ordinary or extraordinary GA may pass resolutions. Resolutions are passed by simple majority of members present. In the case of a split vote a second vote is taken. If the vote is again split the President has the casting vote.
- During elections a candidate is elected by simple majority of members present. In the case of a split vote a second vote is taken. In the case of a second split vote the person nominated by the Committee is elected.
 - As a general rule voting is by raised hand unless the majority of members present demand a secret ballot.

Article 10 The Committee

- 10.1 The Committee is composed as follows:
- The President
 - The Vice-President
 - The Treasurer
 - The Presidents of the Divisions and Departments
 - at least 4 (four) other members
- The Committee assigns jobs to its members apart from the President and the Presidents of the Divisions.
- 10.2 The Committee should consist of persons who have distinguished themselves through their activities in the domain of chemistry, and its composition should also reflect the full spectrum of chemistry specialisations, universities and the industry.
- 10.3 The Committee is competent for all matters that are not the responsibility of another body. Its duties and competences are moreover set out in the rules of the Society.
- 10.4 The term of office of Committee members elected by the GA is 3 (three) years. Re-election is possible, though only once in the case of the President. After his term of office the President may be elected as a member of the Committee. Membership of the Committee may not exceed 9 (nine) years of uninterrupted service.
- 10.5 The Presidents of the Divisions remain on the Committee, subject to confirmation by the GA, for as long as they are in office.
- 10.6 The Committee is responsible for the content of the rules of the Society and others of its regulations, and decides on these independently.
- 10.7 Financial competence for expenditures not included in the budget is limited to CHF 10,000 per case for the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer and the Executive Director.

Article 11 The Board of Directors

- 11.1 The Board of Directors consists of the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer, a Head of Department, a representative of the CHIMIA Editorial Board and the Executive Director.
- 11.2 The members of the Board of Directors are proposed by the President and approved by the Committee.

Article 12 The Divisions and Departments

- 12.1 The Divisions are devoted to specific domains of chemistry, and organise their own events in these domains. The Departments take on specific tasks within the scope of the Society. The Divisions and Departments (subsidised bodies) work with the SCS Foundation to realise tasks and projects that serve the public interest.
- 12.2 The tasks and competences of and cooperation between the Divisions and Departments are set out in the rules.

Article 13 Awards

- 13.1 For outstanding services in the domains of pure and applied chemistry the Society awards the Paracelsus Prize, the Werner Prize, the Grammaticakis-Neumann Prize, the Sandmeyer Prize, the Dr. Max Lüthi Award and the Swiss Chemical Society Medal (list not exhaustive).
- 13.2 The prizes are awarded under the patronage of the SCS Foundation. The conditions that must be met for the awarding of a prize are set out in the rules of the Society.

Article 14 The Auditing body

- 14.1 The Auditing body inspects the Society's annual accounts and the management of its assets and reports on these to the Committee for the information of the GA.
- 14.2 The Auditing body consists of either two members and a reserve member who are elected for a term of office of 3 (three) years, or an external body.

V Dissolution

Article 15

- 15.1 Dissolution of the Society requires a resolution to be passed by a two-thirds majority of members present at two consecutive General Assemblies. There must be an interval of at least three months between the two General Assemblies.
- 15.2 In the case of dissolution, any financial means remaining to the Society will be allocated to a public interest organisation with similar objectives.

VI Final provisions

Article 16 Accounting year

The accounting year corresponds to the calendar year.

Article 17 Liability

The commitments of the Society are guaranteed only by its financial means; any personal liability of members is ruled out.

Article 18 Approval of the Statutes

These Statutes were approved by the Assembly of Founders on 14 February 1992 and the subsequent amendments approved by the General Assemblies of 26 March 1993, 15 April 1994, 14 March 1996, 30 March 2001, 10 March 2005, 10 March 2006, 13 October 2006, 11 September 2008 and 5 September 2009.