

**PADRE**  
**PARTNERSHIP FOR**  
**ACID DRAINAGE REMEDIATION**  
**IN EUROPE**

STATUTES AND BY-LAWS

OVIEDO/SPAIN – SEPTEMBER 2005

# PADRE – Partnership for Acid Drainage Remediation

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## PREAMBLE

A first Meeting was held in London, England, in June 2004 to discuss formation of the partnership. The following individuals constituted the Founding Members of PADRE and were invited to contribute to the discussions:

ENGLAND	Paul Younger
ENGLAND	ROB BOWELL
GERMANY	CHRISTIAN WOLKERSDORFER
SWEDEN	INGAR WALDER
BELGIUM	LUDI DIEHLS

The Constitution and Preliminary Statutes and By-Laws of PADRE were formulated by the Founding Members at the London Meeting.

The Preliminary Statutes and By-laws of PADRE were discussed at the Second Meeting of the Executive Council held in Newcastle upon Tyne/UK (September 2004) and adopted with amendments as the Statutes and By-laws at the First General Assembly in Oviedo/Sapin (September 2005).

## STATUTES

### SECTION I – NAME AND LEGAL ADDRESS

- 1.1 The name of the organisation is the “PARTNERSHIP FOR ACID DRAINAGE REMEDIATION IN EUROPE” hereafter referred to as PADRE. PADRE is a commission of the International Mine Water Association IMWA.
- 1.2 PADRE is a non-governmental and non-profit scientific and technical organization.
- 1.3 The legal address of the Partnership is that of the permanent residence of its Secretary General.

### SECTION II – OBJECTIVES AND AIMS OF THE PARTNERSHIP

- 2.1 The main objective of PADRE is to address water problems in Europe that occur during the exploration, planning, operation, and closure of mines and to provide guidance on such matters as:
  - a. To promote international best practice in the stewardship of waters and soils on European sites subject to the generation and migration of acidic drainage.
  - b. To foster collaborative, international research and development into techniques for characterisation and abatement of acidic drainage in Europe.
  - c. To promote dissemination of knowledge of current best-practice and innovations relating to acidic drainage prevention and remediation, with particular reference to European conditions, including the evolving framework of relevant EU legislation.
  - d. To advance the training of present and future generations of European professionals who will engage in the art and science of acidic drainage prevention and remediation.
  - e. To actively collaborate with a Global Alliance of organisations based in other continents which share similar objectives.

### SECTION III – MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 Membership in the Partnership is in one of the following classes:

#### Voting Members

- A. Individual members – individual persons professionally engaged in mine water problems, but not being an employer in this field.
- B. Corporate members – institutions, industrial companies, firms, universities, research institutes, and other organizations which wholly or partly are involved in mine water problems.
- C. European members of IMWA

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## Non-voting Members

- D. Student members (maximum age 25 years) or an individual who is interested in participation in PADRE or IMWA Congresses or to obtain the publications but not having any influence on the Partnership activity and not included in the international personal exchange.
  - E. International Organizations with allied interests.
- 3.2. Membership of the Partnership is incompatible with any use of the activities of PADRE for political or commercial purposes, or pecuniary gain.
  - 3.3. Notice of the resignation of membership shall be given in writing to the Secretary General at least three months before the end of the current financial year.
  - 3.4. If a member of PADRE has not paid his annual subscription for two consecutive years, the Executive Council is entitled to cancel his membership.
  - 3.5. A member who prejudices the reputation of PADRE or wilfully acts against its aims or interests may be expelled after discussions and deliberations if two thirds of the Executive Council votes for expulsion. The General Assembly shall confirm the decision of the Executive Council by two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

## **SECTION IV – THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

- 4.1. The General Assembly is the supreme body of PADRE and determines its policy.
- 4.2. The General Assembly shall be composed of:
  - a. Representatives of voting members (see Article 3.1). Every voting member has one vote.
  - b. Representatives of non-voting members are entitled to attend as observers.
- 4.3. At least one-third of the voting members, including the proxies, must be present at the first convocation of the General Assembly to constitute a quorum; in the event of such a member not being present at the first convocation any matters subject to voting shall be held over for one hour and the number of members then present shall constitute a quorum. When a voting member is not in a position to take part in the sessions of the General Assembly, he has the right to authorize another delegate to the General Assembly, to act as his proxy, by addressing a letter to this end to the Secretary General. The person authorized in this manner acquires all his rights.
- 4.4. The General Assembly has the right to resolve all questions concerning the Partnership.

A simple majority of the voting members in attendance is required to resolve all problems, with the exception of amendments to the Constitution. Amendments to the Constitution require a two-thirds majority of the voting members in attendance.
- 4.5. The Chairperson of PADRE, or a Vice-Chairperson, shall be the Chairman of the session of the General Assembly. The Chairman of the General Assembly is entitled to cast one vote whenever it is needed to resolve a question in the case of a deadlock.

- 4.6. The sessions of the General Assembly are convened at the time of International Congresses or not less than once every four years. Extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly may also be called at the request of not less than one-third of the voting members. These must be convened within one year of the request. The date and place of the sessions of the General Assembly are determined by the Executive Council.
- 4.7. The functions of the General Assembly shall be:
- a. to elect the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary General, and the members of the Executive Council.
  - b. to authorize the appointment of any Working Group it may deem necessary and authorize the dissolution of any such previous appointments.
  - c. to determine the general policy of PADRE.
  - d. to approve the unit rates of subscriptions.
  - e. to receive the accounts and to approve the proposed budget.
  - f. to perform other such functions as may be conferred upon it.

## **SECTION V – EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

- 5.1. The Executive Council is elected to manage the affairs of the Partnership between the sessions of the General Assembly. It consists of:

Chairperson

Vice-Chairperson / Treasurer

Secretary General

Two members (including the Past-Chairperson)

The Executive Council is empowered to co-opt special additional members if necessary.

Members of the Executive Council must be representative of voting members, and have been so for not less than one year.

The members elected to the Executive Council are required to attend to the interests of the Partnership as a whole. The Executive Council reports on its activities to the General Assembly.

- 5.2. The Executive Council is elected by the General Assembly for the term between successive General Assemblies. No one country shall have more than three elected members of the Executive Council.
- 5.3. The Executive Council shall meet at least once each year. The time and place of the next meeting shall be determined during the previous meeting. Special meetings may be called by the Secretary General if requested by the Chairperson and Secretary General or by one-third of the Executive Council.

Any member of the Executive Council who cannot attend a meeting of the Executive Council may designate another member of the Council as his proxy by a written statement to the Secretary General. One person may carry only one proxy. Decisions of the Executive Council are valid provided its session is at-

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tended by not less than one-third of the members, including the proxies. Decisions are taken by simple majority, and in case of a deadlock, the Chairperson has a deciding vote.

- 5.4. If the Chairperson is absent or unable to fulfil the duties of the office, the Vice-Chairperson acts as a replacement. When one of the other officers of the Executive Council tenders his resignation or is not in a position to fulfil his functions, the Executive Council appoints one of the members to carry out his obligations until the next session of the General Assembly.
- 5.5. The Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson (if section 5.4 applies) are authorized to officially represent the Partnership. All contracts involving PADRE must be signed by the Chairperson and Secretary General.
- 5.6. The Secretary General organizes the work of the General Assembly and the Executive Council, keeps minutes of the meetings, preserves the records, controls administrative activities, supervises the publications of PADRE, prepares annual reports on the work of the Partnership, including the activities of the Executive Council and of the Commissions and Working Groups, and submits a report to the General Assembly.

The Secretary General shall manage the routine business, conduct the correspondence, and perform all other functions which may be entrusted to him by the Executive Council.

- 5.7. The Treasurer manages the financial affairs of the Partnership and is accountable to the Executive Council. The financial report of the accounts shall be prepared and submitted by the Treasurer to the members of the Executive Council in April of every year.
- 5.8. The Executive Council may appoint persons for the operative work.
- 5.9. The Executive Council may set up Working Groups and may appoint experts on specific questions.

## **SECTION VI – COMMISSIONS AND WORKING GROUPS**

- 6.1. PADRE will also perform its work through Working Groups according to decisions adopted by The General Assembly or the Executive Council. Working Groups are formed by PADRE members.
- 6.2. Working Groups are temporary and formed to examine short-term problems. They will report to the General Assembly or the Executive Council on completion of their assignment but at least once a year.
- 6.3. Reports and summaries may be printed at the discretion of the Executive Council.
- 6.4. The Working Groups, once constituted, should be empowered to co-opt additional members, who need not to be PADRE members. The Chairman may invite other persons to the meeting, but only in an advisory capacity.
- 6.5. Working Groups should meet at the General Assembly of PADRE. The Chairman of the Working Group is empowered to call a special meeting, but only when at least two-thirds of the members agree.

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6.6. The Secretary General shall be kept informed of all activities, progress, and findings of each Working Group.

## SECTION VII – LANGUAGES

7.1. The official language of PADRE will be English.

7.2. During PADRE meetings the use is also allowed of other languages, but the Organizing Committee should supply simultaneous translation to English.

## SECTION VIII – FINANCE

8.1. The Financial resources of PADRE derive from:

- a. Annual subscriptions from the members of PADRE.
- b. Sale of publications.
- c. Subsidies, gifts, and grants. The Partnership shall maintain an Honour Roll in which the names of persons or institutions that have donated gifts, legacies or other contributions shall be entered.
- d. Sponsored events and activities in support of PADRE's objectives

8.2. The Executive Council is responsible for administering the finances of PADRE.

8.3. The operative staff appointed by the Executive Council may receive payments and expenses from PADRE.

8.4. The annual subscription rates are as follows:

Category	Units of subscription
Members in Class A	2 (two)
Members in Class B	10 (ten)
Members in Class C	no charge
Members in Class D	1 (one)
Members in Class E	20 (twenty)

The General Assembly or the Executive Council will determine the value of the unit of subscription. Members will be notified of any change in the unit subscription value at least three months in advance of taking effect.

8.5. The benefits of membership in PADRE will include:

- Receipt of the official scientific and engineering journal of PADRE and IMWA, which will be published at least twice each year.
- Availability of other PADRE or IMWA publications at special reduced rates (excluding members in Class D).
- Participation in all PADRE or IMWA sponsored congresses and symposia at a reduced registration fee.
- Receipt of a list of PADRE and IMWA members with their addresses and with indication of class and membership and general field of interest.
- Receipt of circulars notifying members of all PADRE or IMWA meetings and principal activities.

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- 8.6. A member may transfer into a category with a higher subscription rate at any time, but transfer into a category with a lower rate may be made only with the consent of the Executive Council.
- 8.7. The financial year shall be the calendar year; the treasurer will notify any member who has not paid the subscription fee from the past year the individual may be subjected to a loss of voting rights and other privileges, including suspension of membership. Members, who did not pay their annual subscription within the first three months of a calendar year, won't get the Partnership's journal until payment has been received.
- 8.8. Expenses for holding the General Assembly may be borne by PADRE.
- 8.9. The Executive Council may render financial assistance to Organizing Committees of International Congresses, Symposia and other conferences which it sponsors.
- 8.10. PADRE is not responsible for debts and expenses incurred by its members, or by their delegates, except when authorized by the Executive Council.

## **SECTION IX – GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 9.1. If, by way of exception, any major decision is required between meetings of the General Assembly, a postal or electronic ballot may be implemented and a decision taken on a simple majority of votes cast, provided that at least 25% plus one of the voting members have voted. The Secretary General shall be responsible for conducting postal or electronic ballots. Such a decision shall be considered as if it had been reached by the General Assembly.  

The deadline for casting a vote will be three months after sending the request.
- 9.2. The General Assembly may, subject to the general provisions of the Statutes, adopt any By-Laws it deems necessary to achieve the aims, and govern the activity of PADRE. Such a By-Law shall be established or amended on a simple majority of votes cast by the Assembly by direct or postal or electronic ballot.
- 9.3. The procedure for the dissolution of PADRE is the same as for amendments to the Constitution.
- 9.4. The Executive Council shall determine the manner of disposal of the properties of PADRE.

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## **BYE – LAWS**

These Bye-Laws are written in accordance with Section 9.2 of the Statutes.

### **IV GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

- 4.1. The name of the Chief Delegate, who is entitled to vote in the General Assembly on behalf of a member in Class B, must be reported to the Secretary General before each Assembly meets.

### **V EXECUTIVE COUNCIL**

- 5.1. The term of office of the members of the Executive Council are regulated as follows, unless otherwise specified by the General Assembly at the time of election.  
The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary General, and members of the Executive Council take office immediately upon election.
- 5.2. The Executive Council shall prepare the agenda for all sessions of the General Assembly and inform all PADRE members not less than three months before the date fixed for the Assembly.
- 5.3. The Executive Council shall submit financial reports. Budgets may include a discretionary fund. Approval of budgets is a required agenda item at each General Assembly.
- 5.4. Nomination of candidates for the Executive Council shall be submitted to the Secretary General before or at the General Assembly Meeting.
- 5.5. In the election when there are more contenders than offices in the Executive Council, those receiving the greatest number of votes are elected.

### **VIII FINANCE**

- 8.1. The subscription rate unit has been determined as 16 EURO.
- 8.2. EC has the right to change it according to the financial situation

### **IX GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 9.1. During the transitional period (from June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2004) until the first General Assembly, the group of persons mentioned in the Preamble will function as an Executive Council.