

RULES AND REGULATIONS
OF THE
NATIONAL SEED ASSOCIATION OF INDIA
("NSAI")

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1. NAME OF THE SOCIETY

1.1 The name of the Society shall be the **NATIONAL SEED ASSOCIATION OF INDIA ("NSAI")**.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 In these Rules and Regulations unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

a) "Act" shall mean and include the Societies Registration Act, 1860 as applicable to the National Capital Territory of Delhi and any statutory modification or re-enactment made hereunder.

b) "Annual General Meeting" shall mean and include a meeting as enumerated in these Rules and Regulations.

c) "Application Fee" means the fee prescribed for submitting the Prescribed Form for membership of the Society and shall include the fee prescribed upon admission of a Member to the Society, and may be revised by the Governing Council from time to time.

d) "Associate Member" shall mean and include a Member of the Society specified in these Rules and Regulations.

e) "Companies" shall mean and include a company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956 and any statutory modification or re-enactment made there under.

f) "Desirous Member" shall mean and include a Member of the Society, who had signed/subscribed on the Memorandum of Association as a person desirous of forming the society, and in case of individuals representing an incorporated entity shall mean that entity and/or any other individual nominated by such entity.

g) "Extraordinary General Meeting" shall mean and include a meeting as enumerated in these Rules and Regulations.

h) "Farmer" means any person who cultivates crops either by cultivating the land himself or through any other person for any purpose connected with agriculture.

i) "General Body" shall mean and include all classes of Membership as enumerated in these Rules and Regulations.

j) "Governing Council" shall mean and include the Governing Council of the Society constituted for the management of the Society and its affairs in accordance with the Memorandum and the Rules and Regulations of the Society.

k) "General Secretary" shall mean and include the General Secretary of the General Body and the Governing Council of the Society who is appointed / nominated under these Rules and Regulations.

l) "Individual Member" shall mean and include a natural person admitted as a Member of the Society as specified in Rules and Regulations.

m) **“Marketing,”** means development of marketing strategy, commercial promotion, selling and distribution of Seeds.

n) **“Member”** means a Member of the Society, specified in Rules and Regulations.

o) **“Members of the Governing Council”** shall mean and include such persons appointed under these rules and regulations as members of the Governing Council. These members shall, *inter alia*, look after the affairs of the society pertaining to, international affairs, regulatory affairs, industrial policy affairs, legal affairs, technology and IPR, communications and acceptance and such other activities as the General Body may decide from time to time.

p) **“Memorandum”** shall mean and include the Memorandum of the Society.

q) **“Office Bearers”** shall mean Members who have been appointed /nominated from amongst the General Body at the Annual General Meeting to manage the day-to-day affairs of the Society and include, till such time, as the second Governing Council is formed/elected, the first members of the Governing Council.

“Office Bearers” shall include the President, the Vice President, General Secretary and the Treasurer.¹

r) **“Ordinary Member”** shall mean and include a Member of the Society specified in these Rules and Regulations.

r).(i) “Ordinary Member” shall mean and include a Member of the Society specified in these Rules and Regulations.

(ii) “Overseas Member” shall mean and include a Member of the Society specified in these Rules and Regulations.²

s) **“Patrons”** shall mean and include a Patron of the Society specified in these Rules and Regulations.

t) **“Person”** shall include an individual, a company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act, 1956, representatives authorized to represent the Companies, a society of persons and an association/body of individuals/persons.

u) **“Prescribed Form,”** means an application form issued by the Society to those desirous of seeking membership of the Society for the purposes of applying for the same.

v) **“President”** means the President of the General Body and the Governing Council of the Society who is appointed /nominated under these Rules and Regulations.

w) **“Production”** means to contract, grow, produce or manufacture Seeds for commercial and/or research purposes.

x) **“Plant Biotechnology”** shall mean and include a branch of science, which uses multidisciplinary techniques, to develop processes that alter the genome of a plant to enhance its qualities as a crop. It includes cell and tissue culture, genetic diagnostics and genetic modifications.

¹ amended in 2011

² amended in 2012

y) **“Register of Members”** shall mean and include the Register of the Society containing the names of Members who have paid the prescribed Subscription Fees, in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.

z) **“Research”** means a systematic and scientific enquiry and investigation in the fields of plant breeding, plant biotechnology, seed technology, and other related subjects.

aa) **“Rules and Regulations”** shall mean and include the Rules and Regulations framed herein called the **National Seed Association Of India (NSAI) Rules And Regulations**.

bb) **“Society”** shall mean and include the **NATIONAL SEED ASSOCIATION OF INDIA (NSAI)**.

cc) **“Seed”** means any type of living embryo or propagule capable of regeneration and giving rise to a plant of agriculture which is true to such type; it includes seedlings, tubers, bulbs, rhizomes, roots, cuttings, all types of grafts and other vegetatively propagated material.

dd) **“Seed Industry”** includes seed growing, production, processing, warehousing, marketing, research and development of seeds used for sowing or planting including seedlings, tubers, rhizomes, roots, cuttings, grafts and other vegetatively propagated material. This term, wherever used, shall also include plant breeding, plant biotechnology, seed technology and other related subjects.

ee) **“Scientist”** shall mean and include scientists who are individually engaged in or are representatives of a company/Companies or a research institute/organization in India engaged in research and development in the area of plant breeding, plant biotechnology, seed technology, and other related subjects.

ff) **“Subscription Fee”** shall mean and include the annual subscription fee prescribed by the Governing Council of the Society.

gg) **“Transgenic Variety”** means seed or planting material synthesized or developed by modifying or altering the genetic composition by means of genetic modification.

hh) **“Treasurer”** shall mean and include the Treasurer of the General Body and the Governing Council of the Society who is appointed /nominated under these Rules and Regulations.

ii) **“Technology Developer and/or Provider”** shall mean and include any person/organization/institute which has exclusive knowledge or technology for transfer to others in the field of Plant Biotechnology, for which he/it has been pursuing research with due permissions from the Government of India as per the Government of India’s Biosafety Guidelines existing under the EPA, 1986. Any person/organization/institute (i) developing molecular marker technology with potential application in seed industry, (ii) developing crop biotechnology trait(s) through genetic transformation, and/or (iii) any person/organization/institute providing such technologies to other seed companies for commercial application and use will be included in this category.

jj) **“Vice President”** means the Vice President, of the General Body and the Governing Council of the Society, appointed under these Rules and Regulations.

3. **MEMBERSHIP DEFINED**

3.1 Membership of the Society shall be open to all those who fulfill the membership criteria as given in clause 4 and accept the aims and objects of the Society and pay the prescribed Application Fees and the Subscription Fees as provided for in the Rules and Regulations. However, Membership is subject to the approval of the Governing Council.

3.2 The different categories of members shall be required to fulfill the relevant criteria as specifically mentioned in Clause 4.

3.3 Classes of Membership:

The Members of the Society shall be admitted according to one of the following five (5) classes:

3.3.1 Ordinary Member: more specifically described in clause 4.2

3.3.2 Associate Member: more specifically described in clause 4.3

3.3.3 Association Members: more specifically described in clause 4.4.

3.3.4 Promoter Member: more specifically described in clause 4.5

3.3.5 Patron Member: more specifically described in clause 4.6.

3.3.6 Overseas Member: *More specifically described in clause 4.6-A.*¹

4. ADMISSION AND QUALIFICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

4.1 No person can claim admission to the Society as a matter of right on payment of prescribed subscription. The discretion of the Governing Council is final concerning grant of admission to a person.

4.2 Ordinary Members:

4.2.1 Shall mean and include any partnership firm and/or company, registered under the Companies Act, 1956.

4.2.2 The organization must be active in at least two of the following categories:

i. Research;

ii. Production; and/or

iii. Marketing of seeds.

Technology Developer/Provider companies, which do not satisfy this „two out of three“ criteria, shall be eligible to become Associate Members only.

4.2.3 The organization must have a minimum turnover of Rupees One Crore.

4.2.4 The Ordinary Member shall nominate one (1) representative of its company and/or partnership firm to be the Member of the Society.

4.2.5 This category of members shall also include Public Sector Seed companies provided they are able to pay the turnover-based fee as mentioned in clause 5.2.3.

4.3 Associate Members:

4.3.1 Shall mean and include any other related industry association, companies, other seed societies, and ancillary industries and trade.

4.3.1 *Shall mean and include any other industry association, companies, other seed societies, and ancillary industries and trade.*²

¹ amended in 2012

² amended in 2013

4.3.2 The Associate Member, if being a Company, shall nominate one (1) representative from its company to be the Member of the Society

4.3.3 Associate Members may be admitted in the Society through the same process as that for Ordinary members.

4.3.4 In the event, public sector seed companies do not fulfill the criteria as laid down in clause 4.2.5, they shall be eligible to become associate members only.

4.4 Association Members:

4.4.1 Shall mean and include associations that exist at state level as Seed Industry association, but shall not include dealer associations.

4.5 Promoter Member:

4.5.1 Shall mean and include Persons who have subscribed their names as desirous persons to the Memorandum of the Society for registration before the Registrar of Societies under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

4.5.2 The Promoter Member, if being a Company, shall nominate one (1) representative from its Company to be the Member of the Society.

4.6 Patrons:

4.6.1 The Governing Council may invite a person of eminence in field of agriculture or any other field to be a patron of the Society.

4.6.2 The Patron shall be an honorary member of the Society.

4.6.A. Overseas Members:¹

(i) Shall mean and include institutions/organizations/individuals, located outside India

(ii) The Overseas Member may nominate one representative from its institution/organization to be a Member of the Society.

(iii) Overseas Member may be admitted in the Society as per clause 4.1.

4.7 Application for Membership:

4.7.1 Any Person desirous of seeking Membership shall submit:

i. An application in the Prescribed Form, which can be obtained from the Society's Registered Office at New Delhi in person or by communicating in writing or can be downloaded from the net from the Society's website; and

ii. The prescribed Application form shall be accompanied along with the application fee, and with any other documentation deemed necessary by the Governing Council.

iii. The Governing Council may prescribe the applicable procedure for all matters connected with the application for membership.

4.7.2 An application for membership may be accepted or rejected as per the discretion of the Governing Council and in accordance with the present Rules and Regulations of the Society, the procedure for which is more specifically mentioned in Rule 4.9 below.

4.8 Approval or rejection of applications:

4.8.1 After the receipt of an application, the General Secretary of the Society shall refer the applicant's application to the Governing Council for its consideration.

¹ amended in 2012

4.8.2 The Governing Council would thereafter determine whether to approve or reject the application.

4.8.3 If the Governing Council approves the applicant's application for Membership, the General Secretary shall, notify the applicant in writing of the approval of membership; and request the applicant to send the prescribed Subscription Fee as is applicable.

4.8.4 The General Secretary shall thereafter within twenty one (21) days after receipt of the prescribed Subscription Fee as is applicable, enter the applicant's name in the Register of Members, classifying the applicant in the class of Membership as is appropriate.

4.8.5 If the payment of the prescribed Subscription Fee is not received within two months of granting of membership to the applicant, the application shall be declared null and void.

4.8.6 If the Governing Council rejects an application, the General Secretary may notify the applicant in writing that the application has been rejected, but he is under no obligation to do so. The applicant shall not be eligible to apply again before the expiry of one (1) year from the date of refusal.

4.8.7 On rejection of an application, the Society shall not refund the application fee.

4.8.8 The Governing Council reserves the right to approve or reject the applicant's application for Membership of the Society and the right to change the class of membership while allotting membership to the applicant.

5. ADMISSION/APPLICATION FEE AND SUBSCRIPTION

5.1 Application Fee:

5.1.1 Only Ordinary members, Associate members and Association members shall pay an Application Fee in addition to the prescribed Subscription Fee prescribed by the Governing Council from time to time.

5.1.2 The Patron members shall not be required to pay any Application fee.

5.1.3 The Application Fee is subject to revision by a resolution being passed by a simple majority of the Members of the Governing Council being present and voting at the meeting.

5.1.4 The Application Fee is payable by local cheque or demand draft, payable at New Delhi drawn in favor of the National Seed Association of India, New Delhi.

5.1.5 The mode of payment of Application fee is subject to revision at the discretion of the Governing Council.

5.1.6 The Ordinary Member shall pay an Application Fee of Rs.1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) on admission as a member of the Society.

5.1.7 The Associate Member and the Association Members shall pay an Application Fee of Rs.1000/- (Rupees one thousand only) upon admission as a Member of the Society.

5.2 Subscription Fee of Members

The Annual Subscription Fee to be paid every year by a Member shall be as prescribed hereunder.

5.2.1 The Annual Subscription Fee may be revised by the Governing Council as and when considered necessary, subject to a resolution being passed by simple majority of the Members of the Governing Council being present and voting at the meeting.

5.2.2 For different categories of membership, a link between the subscription and subsequent benefits received shall exist. Benefits include: for Ordinary members voting rights, in addition to facilities available to other members, like free access to the materials, research, documents and data collected by the society, invitations to seminars, exhibitions, workshops, conducted by the society, recognition of being affiliated with the society etc.

5.2.3 The Annual Subscription Fee for ordinary members is based on the ability to pay, that is turnover:

<u>BASIS OF CHARGE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Turnover of Rs. 2 crores but less than Rs. 10 crores	Rs10,000
Turnover more than 10 crores but less than 25 crores	Rs25000
Turnover more than 25 crores but less than 50crores	Rs50,000
Turnover more than 50 crores but less than 100 crores	Rs1,00,000
Turnover More than 100 crores but less than 200 crores	Rs2,00,000
Turnover of more than 200 crores	Rs4,00,000

<u>BASIS OF CHARGE¹</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
The Annual subscription charges for various member categories shall be finalized by the Governing Council from time to time.	
Turnover of Rs. 2 crores but less than Rs. 10 crores	Rs12,000
Turnover more than 10 crores but less than 25 crores	Rs30,000
Turnover more than 25 crores but less than 50crores	Rs60,000
Turnover more than 50 crores but less than 100 crores	Rs1,20,000
Turnover More than 100 crores but less than 200 crores	Rs2,40,000
Turnover of more than 200 crores	Rs4,80,000

5.2.4 The Associate members who qualify for the membership of the society shall pay Rs10,000 by way of Annual Subscription.

5.2.4 The Associate members who qualify for the membership of the society shall pay a sum as decided by Governing Council from time to time, by way of Annual Subscription charges.²

¹ amended in 2012

² amended in 2012

5.2.5 The Associations who qualify for membership under clause 4.4 as Association members shall pay Rs.10,000/- by way of Annual Subscription.

5.2.5 The Association members who qualify for the membership of the society shall pay a sum as decided by Governing Council from time to time , by way of Annual Subscription Charges.¹

5.2.6 The Governing Council shall decide fees of Foreign and Non-Resident Indian Members.

5.2.6 The Overseas members who qualify for the membership of the society shall pay a sum as decided by Governing Council from time to time , by way of Annual Subscription Charges.²

5.2.7 All “Technology Providers” who subject to clause 4.2.2 qualify for Membership of the Society as associate members shall pay fees of Rs.1,00,000 (Rupees One Lakh Only) in addition to their annual Subscription Fee.

5.2.8 The subscription period for accounting purposes shall be reckoned from 1st April to 31st March of each year.

5.2.9 If the applicant is admitted as a Member of the Society in the first half of the financial year (1st April- 30th September), he will pay the full yearly subscription and in case he is admitted in the second half (1st October- 31st March) of the year, he would pay only 50% of the annual subscription; but, the amount of Application fee shall remain the same .

5.2.10 The annual Subscription Fee will become due on April 1 of each year and must be paid within two (2) calendar months of the due date, failing which the Member shall be liable to pay interest at the prevailing bank rate plus 5% from the due date. Failure to pay the annual subscription fee within three (3) months of the due date will lead to cancellation of the membership. The Governing Council, may at its discretion, decide to give incentive for timely payments.

5.2.10 The Annual Subscription Fee will become due on April 1 of each year and must be paid within two (2) calendar months of the due date, failing which the Member shall be liable to pay delayed payment charges at the rate of 24% per annum from the due date till the date of payment on pro rata basis. Failure to pay the annual subscription fee within three (3) months of the due date will lead to cessation of the membership. The Governing Council, may at its discretion, decide to give incentive for timely payments.³

5.2.11 The annual Subscription Fee is payable by local cheque or demand draft payable at New Delhi drawn in favor of the NATIONAL SEED ASSOCIATION OF INDIA.

5.2.12 The General Body in the Annual General Meeting may revise the mode of payment of the annual subscription fee.

5.3 Register of Members:

5.3.1 The Society shall keep and maintain a register of all its Members duly signed by the Members containing their names, addresses, occupation, designation, date of joining and the class of membership at the Society’s registered office at New Delhi or at such place or places as the Governing Council thinks fit.

¹ amended in 2012

² amended in 2012

³ amended in 2012

5.3.1 The Society shall keep and maintain a register of all its Members duly signed by the Members containing their names, addresses, date of joining and the class of membership at the Society's registered office at New Delhi or at such place or places as the Governing Council thinks fit.¹

5.3.2 The Register of Members shall be updated from time to time. Each Member shall notify the General Secretary of the Society in writing of any change of address and each such change shall be recorded in the Register of Members of the Society.

5.3.3 The Register of Members shall be open to inspection by any Member at the registered office of the Society at New Delhi during the normal working hours provided he/she has obtained the written permission of the General Secretary of the Society.

5.4 Special provision for membership:

5.4.1 This special provision of membership is valid only upto 31st march, 2007 and thereafter it shall not be applicable under any circumstances.

5.4.2 This provision is applicable only to the existing members of the following associations/companies: Seed Association of India, Association of Seed Industry, All India Crop Bio-Technology Association and Indian Seed Industry Association, provided:

- a. Such existing members are not defaulters with regard to payment of fees and other charges in their respective associations/companies.
- b. These members have in any case paid their membership fee up to March 31st, 2006.

5.4.2 Such members would automatically receive membership of this Society upto March 2007.

5.4.3 For renewal of their membership, they shall be required to complete all the formalities of membership between February to March, 2007. They shall be subject to the membership criteria and the applicable fees of this society from then on. No other special privileges and/or exemptions would be granted to them after March 2007.

6. CESSATION OF THE MEMBERSHIP

6.1 A member shall cease to be a Member of the Society on the occurrence of any of the following events, namely:

6.1.1 On the Member resigning from his membership and his resignation being accepted by the Governing Council.

6.1.2 On the Member's death (in the case of an Individual Member).

6.1.3 On the Ordinary member and /or an association member and/or an Associate Member getting dissolved/ wound up or merged as per law.

6.1.4 On the Member being adjudged insolvent or have unsound mind or convicted of an offence, which in the opinion of the Governing Council involves moral turpitude.

6.1.5 On the Member's failure to pay his Subscription Fees within the specified period.

¹ amended in 2012

6.1.6 On a member being involved in business practices which in the opinion of the Governing Council are unethical practices

6.2 Removal by Governing Council:

6.2.1 The Governing Council may by a majority of not less than two-third of its members present and voting at the meeting, by resolution, remove from Membership a Member:

- (a) Whose persistent misconduct is in the opinion of the Governing Council against the aims and objects of the Society and is prejudicial to the interests of the Society.
- (b) Who does not comply with the Rules or Regulations of this Society.

6.3 Removal By General Body

6.3.1 A member may be removed by the General Body in an Extra Ordinary General Meeting or an Annual General Meeting if a proposal for this is moved, in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Society, subject to Rule 6.4. below, by a minimum of ten members accompanied with reasons therefor.

6.4. Procedure For Removal

6.4.1 At least ten (10) days before the Governing Council or the General Body meeting to remove a Member; the Society shall give a written notice to the delinquent Member stating the allegations against the Member and furnish a copy of the proposed Resolution to be passed by the Governing Council or the General Body for seeking the Member's removal.

6.4.2 The Member shall be provided an opportunity to address the allegations either orally or in writing at the meeting of the Governing Council or the General Body as the case may be.

6.4.3 The Governing Council or the General Body, as the case may be, shall after considering the oral/written request either remove the Member's name from the Register of Members by a resolution if passed by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting. The vote shall be taken by ballot.

6.4.4 A Member removed from the Society does not have any claim on the Society, its funds or property.

7. APPEALS AND RE-ADMISSION OF MEMBERS

7.1 Appeal:

7.1.1 The Member shall be provided an opportunity to appeal against the removal, by submitting a representation in writing to the Governing Council.

7.1.2 The Governing Council shall after considering the written request may consider to re-instate the member by passing a resolution.

7.1.3 However, such a resolution as mentioned in Rule 7.1.2 shall be subject to ratification in the General Body Meeting called for this purpose.

7.2 Readmission

7.2.1 A Member, where membership has been cancelled on account of non-payment of dues may be re-admitted on payment of all dues including interest, within one month of the cancellation of membership, as prescribed in the Rules and Regulations. However, the decision

to re-admit shall be subject to consideration of the Governing Council whose decision shall be final in this regard.

7.2.1 A Member, where membership has been cancelled on account of non-payment of dues may be re-admitted on payment of all dues including interest, as per clause 5.2.10 from the due date of renewal to the date of re-admission, provided re-admission is sought within two years of cessation of the membership. However, the decision to re-admit shall be subject to consideration of the Governing Council, whose decision shall be final in this regard. ¹

7.2.2 A member whose membership had been cancelled on any other ground, other than non-payment of dues to the Society, can be re-instated after following the procedure given in Rule 7.1.

8. RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES OF MEMBERSHIP

8.1 All Members shall:

8.1.1 Have right to receive notices; a Member shall have the right to receive notices of all annual and special general meetings.

8.1.2 Exercise the rights of Membership when the applicant's name is entered in the Register of Members.

8.1.3 Constitute the General Body of the Society.

8.1.4 Participate in the activities organized by the Society such as participation in workshops, seminars, conferences, lectures, symposiums, training programs, exhibitions and other related activities

8.1.5 Be admitted to membership through a representative i.e. an individual acting as a representative of an Ordinary and/or a Associate Member and/or an Association member; however, if such an individual ceases to be a representative of that Member, such Person shall cease to represent the Member and no more allowed to participate in the activities of the Society, but, the Person who is holding membership of the Society may nominate another representative by intimating in writing to the General Secretary of the Society, who shall ratify the same in consultation with the Governing Council.

8.1.6 Only Ordinary Members shall have the right to vote at a meeting of the Society

8.1.7 Have access to database, i.e., any document /research/seminar or in any other material collected in electronic form or by any other means by the Society, available with the Society at such rates as may be prescribed by the Governing Council.

8.1.8 Use the Society's library facilities if any, for reference purposes.

8.1.9 Receive from time to time information about opportunities in India and abroad in plant breeding, plant biotechnology, seed industry and other related subjects in addition to newsletters and other literature of professional interest to consultants.

¹ amended in 2012

8.1.10 Receive a copy of the Society's Rules and Regulation upon being granted membership.

8.1.11 Inspect all documents filed with the Registrar of Societies under this Act.

8.2 A right, privilege or obligation of a person by reason of Membership of the Society is not capable of being transferred or transmitted to another Person/Companies; and terminates upon the cessation of Membership whether by death or by resignation or otherwise.

9. GENERAL BODY

9.1 General Body Defined:

9.1.1 All Members including Office Bearers of the Society and having their dues paid shall constitute the General Body of the Society.

9.2 Powers, Duties and functions of the General body:

9.2.1 To consider and adopt annual report.

9.2.2 To consider and adopt the yearly statement of accounts.

9.2.3 To consider and adopt measures to further the objects of the Society.

9.2.4 To recommend ways and means to strengthen the financial resources of the Society.

9.2.5 To consider such other matters as may be brought before it by the Governing Council.

9.2.6 To consider any other matter with the permission of the President.

9.2.7 However, only Ordinary members shall have right to vote.

9.3 Notice And Periodicity Of Meetings

9.3.1 Annual General Meeting:

i. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held in the month of September of each financial year at such date, time and place as may be decided by the Governing Council of the Society.

*i. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held **before** the month of September of each financial year at such date , time and place ,as may be decided by the Governing council of the Society.¹*

i. The Annual General Meeting of the Society shall be held on or before 15th of September of each financial year at such date, time and place as may be decided by the Governing Council of the Society.²

ii. The Annual General Meeting, under these Rules and Regulations shall be presided over by the President or in his absence by the Vice President or in their absence by any such Member elected from amongst the Members of the Society present in the meeting.

iii. Notice of Annual General Meeting:

- a)** At least twenty one (21) days clear notice shall be issued by the General Secretary of the Society for an Annual General Meeting individually to each Member of the Society stating the date, time and place of meeting (whether or not the Member is entitled to vote at the meeting) either by email or in writing, delivered personally, sent by prepaid mail to that person's address; sent by courier, or by fax to the fax number (if any).

¹ amended in 2011

² amended in 2012

- b) A notice to a Member by the Society is regarded as given and received on the same day, if it is delivered personally or sent by fax or e-mail on a business day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or a public holiday, i.e. within the meaning of Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881 (26 of 1881) in the place to which the notice is sent, or within five working days of the date of dispatch if sent by prepaid post or courier.
- c) In case the notice for the Annual General Meeting is lost or delayed the Society shall not be held responsible. It will be sufficient to prove that the letter/e-mail containing the notice was properly addressed and delivered, faxed, e-mailed, couriered or posted.

iv. Agenda of the Annual General Meeting

- a) A copy of the agenda with notes, if any, shall be circulated by the General Secretary to all the Members at least 21 days before the date of meeting.
- b) The agenda for the General Meeting shall be prepared by the Governing Council; the business to be transacted shall include the following:

Report of the General Secretary on the activities of the Society during the period intervening after the previous Annual General Meeting,

Approval of accounts, balance sheets and budget estimates audited for the previous financial year together with the auditor's report and;

Election of Office Bearers and representatives of the Society to the Governing Council, as provided in these Rules and Regulations.

To elect the auditors of the Society and fix their remuneration.

To transact any such other business as may be considered in view of the Governing Council.

Any Member who wishes to place an item on the agenda of an Annual General Meeting may do so provided he gives notice to the General Secretary forty-five (45) days before the meeting is due to be held. Provided, that the President may in his discretion allow such proposition to be included in the agenda of the AGM even at short notice.

Any matter of an urgent nature, which has not been included in the agenda of the meeting may, with the approval of the person presiding, be placed before the meeting for its consideration.

- v. The President of the Society may also, in such cases as he may consider necessary, without prior notice direct that any business may be circulated among the Members and any resolution so circulated and approved by a majority of Members present and signed shall be as effectual and binding as if such resolution had been passed at a meeting of the General Body

9.3.2 Extraordinary General Meeting:

- i.** Notice for the Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society shall be given by the General Secretary not less than ten (10) days in advance.
- ii.** An Extraordinary General Meeting of the Society may be called in the manner prescribed by a resolution of the Governing Council, on a specific matter considered being important in its opinion. In such an event, the President may call a meeting at such shorter notice as he may direct for the transaction of any urgent business.
- iii.** A copy of the agenda with notes, if any, shall be circulated by the General Secretary to all the Members at least five (5) days before the date of meeting. Provided that in the case of a meeting called for the transaction of urgent business, the agenda and the notes thereon shall be sent along with the notice of the meeting.
- iv.** Notwithstanding that any Member has not received the notice or the agenda; the meeting may proceed to transact the business on the agenda.
- v.** Any matter of an urgent nature, which has not been included in the agenda of the meeting, may with the approval of the person presiding, be placed before the meeting for its consideration.

9.3.4 Minutes:

- i.** The General Secretary of the Society must record minutes of:
 - a) Proceedings and resolutions of meetings of the Annual General Meeting, the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting and Committee meetings;
 - b) Names of Members who have attended meetings of the Annual General Meeting, the Extra-Ordinary General Meeting and Committee meetings and on approval by the person presiding it shall be circulated to the Members of the Governing Council

9.4 Quorum of meetings:

9.4.1 10% of the Ordinary Members shall form the quorum of the Annual General Meeting and Extraordinary General Meeting. Each Member present may be counted once toward a quorum.

9.4.2 Passing Of Resolutions:

- i.** Unless otherwise specified in these rules, all Resolutions in a meeting of the General Body shall be passed by a simple majority of the members present and voting.
- ii.** Unless otherwise specified in these rules, the voting at a meeting of the General Body shall take place by a show of hands.
- iii.** A copy of the resolution passed by show of hands at a General Body meeting shall be signed by the President of the Society or in his absence by the Vice President of the Society, or in the absence of both, by the presiding member.
- iv.** However, the Governing Council of the Society may also, in such cases as it may consider necessary and without prior notice, direct that any business may be circulated among the Members and any resolution so circulated and approved by a majority of Members by signing on it shall be as effectual and binding as if such resolution had been passed at a meeting of the General Body.

9.4.3 In view of the All India Character of the Seed Industry, efforts will be made to hold the meetings of the General Body in different regions that have strong presence of the seed industry in India like AP, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu etc.

10. GOVERNING COUNCIL

10.1 Governing Council Defined:

10.1.1 The Governing Council would constitute of the President, Vice President, General Secretary, Treasurer and such other members to whom under the Rules & Regulations of the Society the management of its affairs is entrusted. The Governing Council may also form standing committees or ad hoc working groups to support the activities of the society. Standing working groups on Communications, Industry Policy, Legal and Technology will be chaired by the leads defined above.

10.1.1 The Governing Council would constitute of the President, the Vice President, General Secretary and the Treasurer and such other members to whom under Rules & Regulations of the Society the management of its affairs is entrusted. The Governing Council may also form Standing Committees or Ad hoc working groups to support the activities of the Society.¹

10.1.2 Powers & Functions of the Governing Council

i. The Governing Council shall be responsible for the management and administration of the affairs of the Society subject to the Act, and in accordance with these Rules and Regulations made there under for the furtherance of its objects, and shall have all powers, which may be necessary or expedient for the purpose.

ii. Without prejudice to the generality of the powers conferred by the foregoing clause, the Governing Council shall have the power to:

- a) Take decision on applications for Membership as per procedure prescribed in Rules and Regulations;
- b) Appoint Office Bearers of the Society;
- c) Prescribe byelaws governing regional offices of the Society and any other matter, which may be placed before the Governing Council at its meetings.
- d) Prepare and execute detailed plans and programmes for the furtherance of the objects of the Society;
- e) Receive, have custody of and expend the funds of the Society and manage the properties of the Society;
- f) Appoint and control such staff as may be required for the efficient management of the affairs of the Society and regulate their recruitment and conditions of service;
- g) Enter into agreement for and on behalf of the Society;
- h) Sue and defend all legal proceedings on behalf of the Society;
- i) Appoint committees for disposal of any business of the Society or for advice in any matter pertaining to the Society and make, adopt and vary from time to time Rules and Regulations for the functioning of and for the purpose connected with the management and administration of the affairs of the Society and for furtherance of its objects;
- j) Pay all expenses incurred in the formation and carrying out the objects of the Society;

¹ amended in 2011

- k) Hear and deal with complaints;
- l) Purchase or otherwise acquire for the Society any property including office equipment, furniture, furnishing, etc. rights or privileges at such price and generally on such terms and conditions, as it considers proper;
- m) Secure the fulfillment of any contracts or engagements entered into by the Society;
- n) Authorize any person to enter into negotiations and execute contracts and to rescind and vary all such contracts;
- o) Purchase or otherwise acquire lands, building, etc. to construct buildings, godowns, sheds, parking spaces etc.;
- p) Sell such portion of the lands or buildings of the Society which are in excess of its requirements;
- q) Rent or lease the premises or assets of the Society;
- r) Mortgage the property or assets of the Society;
- s) Open accounts with banks and authorize officer(s) of the Society to operate on them as well as draw, accept, endorse and execute cheques, bills of exchange, promissory notes etc. on behalf of the Society;
- t) Lay down rules for the affixation and custody of common seal of the Society;
- u) Consider and approve annual report, statement of accounts for placing before the General Body for its approval;
- v) Appoint auditors and decide their remuneration;
- w) Borrow with or without security and accept donations, deposit for the use and purpose of the Society;
- x) Invest any money of the Society with any nationalized bank and deal with it;
- y) Focus on achievement of Society's objectives by establishment of Special Interest Groups: more specifically described in clause 12
- z) Delegate from time to time all or any of its powers to any other committee which it may form for the purpose, to the General Secretary or any other officer of the Society as may be found necessary for the efficient administration of the affairs of the Society.
- aa) Do all such other acts and things as are incidental to or which the Governing Council may think conducive to the attainment of the objects of the Society or any of them.

10.2 Minimum and Maximum Strength of Governing Council:

The minimum Strength of the Governing Council would be eight (8) and the maximum fifteen (15).

10.3 Composition:

10.3.1 The composition of the Governing Council shall be as under:

President	One
Vice President	One
General Secretary	One
Treasurer	One
Member representing the Association members	One (under all conditions)
Member representing the Associate Members	One (under all conditions)
Member (Co-opted)	One
Member (Co-opted)	One

Member	One
Member	One
Member	One
Member	One
Member	One
Member	One
Member	One

10.3.2 The members of the Governing Council may also be known as office bearers

10.3.2 The members of the Governing Council holding an Office (i.e. President , the Vice President ,General Secretary and the Treasurer) would be known as Office Bearers .The immediate Past President will be a “Special Invitee” to all the meetings of the Office Bearers and the Governing Council.¹

10.3.3 Eleven members of the Governing Council are to be elected by the Ordinary members from amongst themselves; of these there would be three members, from the organizations that have a turnover of Rupees Fifty Crores (Rs.50,00,00,000/-) and above. One member shall be elected by the Association Members from amongst themselves and one member will be elected by Associate Members from amongst themselves. The Governing Council will co-opt up to two members on the Governing Council to ensure adequate representation from various categories such as public sector, technology provider, vegetable hybrid seed industry, field crop seed industry, etc. Co-opted members could be ordinary or associate members. Only a company which is commercially providing its technology to other seed companies will be eligible for co-option to the Governing Council under the Technology developer/ provider company category. The President, Vice-President, General Secretary and the Treasurer will be from amongst the Ordinary members only.

Eleven members of the Governing Council are to be elected by the Ordinary members from amongst themselves; of these there would be three members from the organizations that have a turnover of Rupees Fifty Crores (Rs.50,00,00,000/-) and above. One member shall be elected by the Association Members from amongst themselves and one member will be elected by Associate Members from amongst themselves. The Governing Council will co-opt, up to two members, on the Governing Council to ensure adequate representation from various categories such as public sector, technology provider, vegetable hybrid seed industry, field crop seed industry, etc. Co-opted members could be ordinary or associate members. Only a company which is commercially providing its technology to other seed companies will be eligible for co-option to the Governing Council under the Technology developer/ provider company category. The term of co-opted member shall terminate with the term of Governing Council in which they were nominated. The President, Vice-President, General Secretary and the Treasurer will be from amongst the Ordinary members only.²

10.4 Election And Its Mode:

10.4.1 Procedure:

i. Elections shall be held in accordance with the following procedure:

¹ amended in 2011

² amended in 2012

- a) The nomination papers of every individual being Representative of an ordinary Member shall be filed by the individual concerned, and must be supported by at least two Ordinary Members.
- b) The Office Bearers and the members of the Governing Council of the Society shall be elected by secret ballot.
- c) In the event of there being no contest, the individual whose nominations have been filed shall be elected unopposed.
- d) In the event of there being no nominations filed, the names proposed by the existing Governing Council for post of office bearers shall be deemed to be elected unopposed, subject to the acceptance of such post by the Person concerned.
- e) Only Ordinary Members are eligible to vote.
- f) Votes shall be cast in person at the Annual General Meeting in the prescribed manner.
- g) An ordinary member can exercise his vote through proxy.

The voting shall be done as per the criteria of one member one vote .

i. Elections shall be held in accordance with the following procedure:¹

- a) The nomination papers of every individual being Representative of any Member Category shall be filed by the individual concerned, and must be supported by at least two Members in the respective membership category.*
- ~~b) The members of the Governing Council of the Society shall be elected by secret ballot.~~*
- c) In the event of there being no contest, the individual whose nominations have been filed shall be elected unopposed.*
- d) In the event of there being no nominations filed, the names proposed by the existing Governing Council for new Governing Council member(s) shall be deemed to be elected unopposed, subject to the acceptance of such post by the Person concerned.*
- e) Members are eligible to vote only in their respective category.*
- f) Votes shall be cast in person at the Annual General Meeting in the prescribed manner. g) member can also exercise his vote through proxy.*

The voting shall be done as per the criteria of one member one vote .

10.4.2 Casting vote of President for election of Office Bearers: If an equal number of votes are for and against a resolution at a meeting of Members of the Governing Council, the President shall have a casting vote to decide the matter.

10.4.3 Decision on right to vote: A Promoter or an Ordinary Member may challenge a person's right to vote at a meeting for election of Members of the Governing Council. A challenge may only be made at the meeting. The President, whose decision shall be final, shall decide on the eligibility of a Person to vote or any other doubt as to the validity of a vote.

10.4.4 In view of the All India Character of the Seed Industry, efforts will be made to hold the meetings of the Governing Council in different regions that have strong presence of the seed industry in India like AP, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu.

¹ amended in 2012

¹10.4.5 An individual representing a different member (organisation) cannot contest from more than one category (i.e. Ordinary, Associate and Association) in the same election.

10.4.6 'Eligibility criteria to contest in NSAI Governing Council Elections shall be 3 years' minimum presence as NSAI Member (i.e. the contestant company shall be a member of NSAI for 3 years on continuous basis) and the individual person shall have minimum 5 years' experience in Seed industry'.

10.4.7 Roles and Responsibilities of Election Committee

The Election Committee would have the role of supervision, direction & control of elections for electing Governing Council members of NSAI. It would deal with the preparation of electoral list and organising elections for election of members into the Governing Council of NSAI. The key thrust of Election committee would be well-run elections, electoral registration and transparency operations and equal opportunity for all eligible members to contest in elections with high levels of compliance to integrity and fair-play.

1. Composition:

The Election Commission consists of:

- a) Chairman from among the current year NSAI Members
- b) 2 other members from among the current year NSAI Members
- c) The Committee shall be constituted by the Governing Council
- d) Upon successful organising of the Elections the Election committee would cease to operate

2. Functions of the Election Committee:

The Election Committee performs following functions:

- a) The supervise, direct & control the flow of elections.
- b) To act as guardian of Free & Fair Elections.
- c) To frame Model Code of Conduct.
- d) To finalize Election Notice, Election Schedule, Electoral List, Nomination Form, Proxy Voting Form.
- e) To declare Nomination List.
- f) To finalize Ballot Paper.
- g) To oversee the proceedings of the Elections-Casting of Votes, Counting of Votes
- h) To declare the Results of NSAI Governing Council Elections

3. Powers of the Election Committee:

The Election Committee is vested with the following powers:

- a) To advice the disqualification of any contestant as per the election guidelines.
- b) Framing of Timelines and modification of Election Schedule in agreement with Rules and Regulation of NSAI
- c) Decision on inclusion of Members in Electoral List based on Guidelines approved by the GC earlier.
- d) Declaration of Electoral List
- e) Dispute mitigation during the Election Procedure
- f) To pass any order in respect of the conduct of the elections when there is no law or rule made under the R & R.

10.5 Terms Of Office Of The Governing Council:

10.5.1 The term of every Governing Council shall be two (2) years.

10.5.2 A member of the Governing Council shall have a maximum of two terms i.e. four years in all, in a given post. Half the members of the Governing Council would retire by rotation on the conclusion of their term. Selection as to who would retire at the first meeting would be by draw of lots conducted by the General Secretary in presence of the president and other members of the Governing Council. The retiring members may offer themselves for re-election, if they so desire.

10.5.2 The tenure of a member of Governing Council will be of Four years. Half the members of the Governing council, would retire by rotation, on the conclusion of their term. Selection as to who would retire at the first meeting would be by draw of lots, conducted by the General Secretary, in the presence of the President and other members of the Governing council. The retiring members may offer themselves for reelection, if they so desire. However, any member of Governing shall not have more than two consecutive terms , i.e. not more than eight years continuously). He shall be eligible for reelection after a gap of one governing Council term (i.e. two years).¹

10.5.3 The second regular Governing Council should be constituted within six months (6 months) of the commencement of the term of the first Governing Council. Till such time as the second regular Governing Council is constituted, the management of the Society vests with the first Governing Council of the Society subject to termination of office by resignation or otherwise. The Office Bearers of the first Governing Council shall continue to hold their respective offices until the election and assumption of office by their successors.

10.5.4 The President may by a letter addressed to the Members of the Governing Council tender his resignation, which may be accepted by the Members present. The Vice President and any other Office Bearer may by a letter addressed to the President, resign their respective offices.

10.5.5 In case of a Resignation, Ceasing or Suspension of an office bearer before the end of the term of the Governing Council, such vacancy shall be treated as a casual vacancy, more specifically dealt in Rule 10.9.

10.5.6 A Member automatically ceases to be an Office Bearer if he ceases to be a Member of the Society or a Representative of a Member of the Society

10.6 Powers And Duties Of Office Bearers:

10.6.1 President:

i. The President of the Society shall exercise over all control of the affairs of the Society and lay down, in consultation with other office bearers, such procedures for the day-to-day functioning of the Society and to give effect to these Rules and Regulations, as he may deem fit and expedient.

ii. The President shall preside over the meetings of the General Body and the Governing Council and or any committee and shall have full authority to regulate the proceedings and maintain order there at in such manner as he may deem fit.

ii. The President shall preside over the meetings of the General Body, the Governing Council and Office Bearers and any committee and shall have full authority to regulate the proceedings and maintain order there at in such manner as he may deem fit.²

¹ amended in 2011

² amended in 2011

- iii. The President shall function in furtherance of the objectives of the Society and in accordance with these Rules and Regulations.
- iv. In any emergency which in the opinion of the President, requires immediate action, the President may take such action as he may consider necessary (in consultation with other Office Bearers) and forthwith inform the Governing Council for approval at its next meeting or within three (3) months, whichever is earlier.
- v. The President shall supervise the work of other Office Bearers from time to time.

10.6.2 Vice President

- i.** In the absence of the President, the Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Governing Council or other Committees and will discharge duties of the President.

10.6.3 General Secretary:

- i.** He shall convene the meetings of the General Body and the Governing Council and inform every Member regarding the date, time and place of meeting.
 - ii.** Subject to such directions as the Governing Council may from time to time issue, the General Secretary shall have the power, among others, of general administration of the Society and its Committees.
 - iii.** He shall be the custodian of the furniture, books, stationery, including records and registers and all other properties, other than money and securities of the Society.
 - iv.** He shall attend to the correspondence of the Society. He shall be authorized to sign all correspondence, documents, deeds, vakalatnamas, and power of attorney in the name of the Society in consultation with the President of the Society.
 - v.** He shall generally discharge his functions in consultation with the President and other Office Bearers and carry out the directions of the Governing Council. He is an ex-officio Member of all Committees.
 - vi.** He shall bring any matter, which he considers necessary and in the interest of the Society to the notice of the Governing Council for guidance and decision.
 - vii.** He shall in consultation with the Office Bearers of the Society organize, arrange and convene meetings, conferences, lectures, workshops, seminars, symposium, exhibitions and public functions.
 - viii.** He shall employ staff to manage the day-to-day affairs of the Society subject to the approval of the President of the Society.
 - ix.** He shall get prepared with the Treasurer statements of monthly and annual accounts for adoption by the Governing Council and finally present it at the Annual General Meeting.
-

10.6.4 Treasurer

- i. Treasurer shall have the custody of all monies and securities of the Society.
- ii. The Treasurer will operate the Society's bank account with a nationalized bank approved by the Governing Council. The bank account shall be operated by the Treasurer and the President of the Society jointly or such other officer(s) as may be approved by the Governing Council.
- iii. The sums due to the Society shall be payable to and recoverable by the Treasurer subject to directions as may be given by the President and/or the General Secretary.
- iv. The Treasurer shall keep the monies of the Society in such bank of standing, whether nationalized or others, and in such manner as the Governing Council may direct and shall bring all the monies received into account immediately on receipt thereof.
- v. He shall be responsible for the expenditure on behalf of the Society, as may be authorized by the Governing Council or the General Body. The Treasurer shall:
 - a) Attend all meetings of the Governing Council and unless prevented by illness or excused by its President and shall supply such information of accounts and finances of the Society as may be required.
 - b) Be responsible to see that all contributions by beneficiaries are duly collected and funds disbursed as per directions of the Governing Council.
 - c) Ensure proper and due precautions for the safe custody of cash, cheques, and securities of the Society. He shall deposit money received into the Society's bank account without delay.
 - d) Collect Subscription Fee, Application Fee, gifts, grants-in-aid and donations etc. from the Members and the general public.
 - e) Prepare periodical returns of the financial activity of the Society for perusal of the Governing Council. He shall also make financial analysis on any aspect of the working of the Society when called upon to do so.
 - f) Prepare annual budget and final accounts of the Society.
 - g) Make disbursements as may be necessary or expedient for the Society including the payment of salaries of the staff of the Society.
 - h) Supervise working of the accounts staff.

10.6.5 Other office bearers:¹

They shall assist in the day-to-day work of the Society as directed by the President and General Secretary. There shall be the following additional office bearers to look after the following functions:

- i. International Affairs: There shall be a member for International Affairs to handle all affairs connected with international organizations connected with plant breeding, plant biotechnology, Seed technology and other related subjects.
- ii. Regulatory affairs: There shall be a member Regulatory affairs to handle all affairs connected with regulatory issues.
- iii. Industrial Policy: There shall be a member Industrial Policy to handle all policy matters connected with the overall growth of the seed industry
- iv. Legal: there shall be a member for legal matters of the society
- v. Technology and IPR: There shall be a member to handle all matters connected with the development of new technologies including plant

breeding, plant biotechnology, seed technology and other related subjects and protection of Intellectual Property Rights of the members.

- vi. Communications and acceptance: There shall be a member to handle all the public relations and other related matters of the society with the aim of fostering growing acceptance by the stakeholders of new technologies including plant breeding, plant biotechnology, seed technology and other related subjects.
- vii. Depending upon the need, the General Body may from time to time elect other members to look after the specific affairs of the society.

10.7 Notice and Periodicity of Governing Council Meetings:

10.7.1 The Governing Council meeting shall be held once in every three (3) months or as and when the Governing Council may decide from time to time.

10.7.2 An urgent Governing Council meeting may also be called by a twenty four (24) hours notice.

10.7.3 A resolution in writing or approved by email by a simple majority of the Members of the Governing Council shall be valid and effective as if it had been passed at a duly constituted meeting of the Governing Council.

10.7.4 Unless otherwise specified in these rules, all Resolutions in a meeting of the Governing Council shall be passed by a simple majority of the members present and voting.

10.7.5 The voting at a meeting of the General Body shall take place by a show of hands.

10.7.6 A copy of the resolution passed by show of hands at a Governing Council meeting shall be signed by the President of the Society or in his absence the by the Vice President of the Society.

10.8 Quorum Of The Meetings Of The Governing Council

10.8.1 One-third of the Members of the Governing Council shall constitute the Quorum of the Meeting.

10.9 Filing Up Casual Vacancies:

10.9.1 Any Casual vacancy amongst the Governing Council shall be filled by the resolution passed by the Governing Council. The General Body in the Annual General meeting shall confirm such appointment(s) as per the procedure laid down for election of Governing Council Members.

10.9.1 Any Casual vacancy amongst the Governing Council shall be filled by the resolution passed by the Governing Council. The General Body in the Annual General meeting shall confirm such appointment(s). The tenure of such nominated member, however, shall be restricted only till the next elections to Governing Council.²

10.10 Indemnity

10.10.1 The Society shall indemnify and keep indemnified Office Bearers/Members of the Governing Council against any claim, costs, charges, expenses, losses or damages or against any proceedings against the Members of the Governing Council for any bonafide act or bonafide omission on their part in the discharge of their obligations as such members pursuant to the provisions of these Rules and Regulations except any liability on account of willful neglect or default.

¹ deleted in 2011

² amended in 2012

11 SECRETARIAT:

11.1 The basic structure and the composition of the Secretariat shall be decided by the Governing Council.

11.2 The key personnel of the Secretariat, like the Executive Director, Manager Public and Government Affairs, Manager Communications etc shall be appointed by the Governing Council.

*11.2 The key personnel of the Secretariat, like the **Executive Director, Director, Assistant Directors, etc., shall be appointed by the Governing Council.**¹*

11.3 While deciding upon the selection process for the key personnel of the Secretariat, the Governing Council shall give due consideration to experience in handling Government agencies, understanding of the political, economic and social issues that confront the nation, ability to network and a broad exposure to the seed industry in India.

11.4 The Secretariat will be responsible for the day-to-day functioning of the Association and will operate under the overall guidance of the General Secretary and the President.

12.SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS:

12.1 In accordance with the objectives of the Society, there shall be four Special Interest Groups (hereinafter referred to as SIG"s) to be formed on a permanent basis.

*12.1 In accordance with the objectives of the Society, **the Governing Council may constitute Special Interest Groups (hereinafter referred to as SIG's) to be formed on a permanent basis.**²*

12.2 These SIGs shall be for:

- i. Crop Biotechnology,
- ii. Intellectual Property,
- iii. Industrial Policy, Seed law enforcement, etc. and
- iv. Communication.

12.3. Both ordinary and associate members will be included in the SIGs based on their declared profile.

12.4. The SIGs will each have a committee of three members (of which one would be a Governing Council member) to coordinate and lead the effort within that SIG.

*12.4 The SIGs will each have a committee of **a minimum of three members (of which one would be a Governing Council member) to coordinate and lead the effort within that SIG.**³*

12.5. The SIGs will themselves decide the focus areas, priorities and action/implementation plans to carry out the activities relevant to that SIG.

12.6. Each SIG will have a dedicated personnel resource in the NSAI secretariat. The resources required for SIG specific activity will be raised by the members of the respective SIG.

¹ amended in 2011

² amended in 2011

³ amended in 2011

12.7. The Governing Council may create additional SIG from time to time if it feels that there is a need for focusing on any issue of relevance in the seed industry not covered in the above four SIG's.

13 SUB-COMMITTEE

13.1 Formation

13.1.1 The Governing Council may constitute such committees and sub-committees to implement the Society's aims, objectives, programs and activities, as it may deem necessary.

13.2 Composition:

13.2.1 Each Committee shall usually comprise of not more than seven (7) Members with one (1) Member at all times being from amongst the Governing Council and shall be nominated by the Governing Council in consultation with the President of the Governing Council.

13.2.2 The Governing Council shall have the power, if it deems necessary to bring an expert on the panel of a Sub-Committee, who is not a member and such an expert may be brought on the sub-committee as a Patron member.

13.3 Duties & Functions:

13.3.1 Every Committee formed must comply with the guidelines and purpose of its formation as may be prescribed by the Governing Council.

13.3.2 The Governing Council shall have power to issue such directions to any committee as it deems fit and the committee shall abide by such directions.

13.3.3 All acts and decisions decided by the Members of the Committee shall be subject to ratification by the Members of the Governing Council.

13.4. Sources Of Income And Utilization Of Funds:

13.4.1 All the income of the Society shall be utilized only for the promotion and fulfillment of the aims and objects of the Society as given in its Memorandum.

13.4.2 Sources of income of the Society are as under:

13.4.2.1 Application Fee & Annual Subscription Fee from the Members of the Society;

13.4.2.2 Donations and special contributions, grant-in-aids, gifts from the Government institutions and bodies, corporate houses, Persons/Companies/firms, Foreign and Non-Resident Indians, foreign banks/financial institutions, societies/trusts and foundations etc.

13.4.2.3 Participation fees and charges for attending conferences, seminars, workshops etc. organized by the Society.

13.4.2.4 Subscription fee/Sale proceeds of newsletters, publications, books etc. published by the Society.

13.4.2.5 And all other lawful means and sources of income.

13.5 Management of funds

13.5.1 The Society shall have its own account; funds and all receipts of the Society shall be credited to the said account.

13.5.2 All transactions from the above account shall be carried out in the name of Governing Council by the Treasurer or any other officer authorized by the Governing Council in this behalf.

13.5.3 All sums received shall be credited to the above in the first instance. No receipt shall be directly appropriated towards expenditure.

13.5.4 All payments out of the account shall preferably be made through cheques by such officer or officers as may be authorized by the Governing Council or as specified in these Rules and Regulations.

13.5.5 Any monies lying at the credit of the Society in the fund and not immediately required by it for the purpose of the business of the Society may be invested by the Treasurer in accordance with guidelines given by the Governing Council.

13.5.6 The Treasurer shall prepare and submit to the Governing Council for approval, as far as may be possible, in the month of December every year, a budget for the following financial year, showing the estimated receipts and expenditure during the financial year.

13.5.7 The budget so framed shall be scrutinized and approved by the Governing Council, which may make such modification, as it deems necessary.

13.5.8 The Treasurer shall be responsible for proper maintenance of accounts of the Society.

13.5.9 The principal books of accounts shall be maintained in accordance with such instructions as may be issued from time to time by the Governing Council. Besides, these principal books, such other subsidiary books as are necessary to show details of all assets such as land, buildings etc., and also for clearance of suspense transactions shall be maintained as deemed necessary.

13.5.10 The income and expenditure of the Society shall be classified under various heads of accounts, as the Treasurer may deem necessary for purposes of information and control.

13.5.11 All payments shall be made by the Treasurer in consultation with the General Secretary and shall prepare an annual statement of accounts.

14. FINANCIAL YEAR

14.1 The Financial Year of the Society shall commence on 1st April of each year and end on the 31st of March of the subsequent year.

15. AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

15.1 At the end of each financial year, the accounting staff shall prepare an annual statement of accounts.

15.2 The annual accounts so prepared shall be subject to audit by qualified auditors every year.

15.3 The audit report shall be submitted to the Governing Council, which shall then place the audit report before the General Body with its remarks.

16. OPERATION OF BANK ACCOUNTS

16.1 Bank accounts shall be operated by the joint signatures of the Treasurer and the President of the Society or of such other Office Bearers as the Governing Council may decide for this purpose.

17.LOCAL CHAPTERS/REGIONAL OFFICES:

17.1 While the registered office of the Association will be in the National Capital Region, all efforts would be made to have Regional offices in important seed production states like AP, Karnataka, Gujarat etc.

17.2 The Regional offices will be manned by a regional secretariat under a Regional Director.

17.3 The Governing Council will appoint the key personnel of such Regional Offices after giving due consideration to the special features obtaining in the region.

18 ANNUAL LIST OF MANAGING /GOVERNING COUNCIL

18.1 Once in every financial year, a list of the office bearers and Members of the Governing Council of the Society shall be filed with the Registrar of Societies, Delhi, as required under Section 4 of the Societies Registration Act, 1860, as applicable to the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

19. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS (SECTION 6 of the Act)

19.1 The Society may sue or be sued in the name of the President and/or the General Secretary of the Society as per provisions laid down under Section 6 of the Act, as applicable to the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

20. AMENDMENT

20. 1 Any Amendment in the memorandum, Rules and regulations will be carried out in accordance with Section 12 and 12-A of the Societies Registration Act, 1860 as applicable to National Capital Territory of Delhi.

21. DISSOLUTION AND ADJUSTMENT OF AFFAIRS

21.1 If the Society needs to be dissolved, it shall be dissolved as per provisions laid down under Section 13 and 14 of the Act, as applicable to the National Capital Territory of Delhi.

22. APPLICATION OF THE ACT

22.1 All the provisions under all the Sections of the Societies Registration Act, 1860, as applicable to the National Capital Territory of Delhi shall apply to this Society.

23. ESSENTIAL CERTIFICATE

23.1 Certified that this is the correct copy of the Rules and Regulations of the above Society.

Mr. Satish Kagliwal

(President)

Dr. Arvind kapur

(General Secretary)

Dr. Paresh Verma

(Treasurer)