

BY-LAWS

OF THE SWISS NATIONAL COMMISSION ON AGRO-SYSTEMS AND LAND IMPROVEMENT (CH-AGRAM)

German: "Statuten der Schweizerischen Nationalen Kommission für Agrosysteme und Meliorationen"

French: "Statuts de la Commission des Agro-systèmes et Aménagements"

1. Establishment and Objectives

- 1.1. The Swiss National Commission on Agro-Systems and Land Improvement (CH-AGRAM) is an organ of the Swiss Academy of Engineering Sciences (SATW) and a geosuisse Group. It emerged from the Swiss Association for Agricultural Engineering, Irrigation and Drainage (CH-AGRID).
- 1.2. CH-AGRAM is tasked with promoting, developing and publicising the sciences and technologies of agro-systems and land improvement in Switzerland and abroad, chiefly in terms of the sharing of experience and knowledge with the international community.
- 1.3. CH-AGRAM deals with agro-systems and engineering sciences in the water, soil and ecosystems sectors, and occasionally also with related fields having a connection with land management, regional development and crop husbandry. Connections and interactions with the environment, society and sustainable development are also an integral part of the Commission's objectives.

2. Chief Tasks

CH-AGRAM:

- Is involved in the activities of the International Commission of Agricultural Engineering (ICAE), the International Commission for Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) and the European Society of Agricultural Engineers (EurAgEng). As part of its terms of reference, it may also contribute to the activities of regional associations;
- Contributes to works of general interest in the sphere of agro-systems and land improvement;
- Maintains links among the specialists of these diverse technologies both inside and outside of Switzerland, for example at technical meetings and tours;
- Promotes technological and scientific research and development in its subject area;
- Contributes to the development of academic and professional training courses in its subject area;
- Takes initiatives, participates on public occasions and compiles publications for the development of relevant sciences and technologies at both Swiss and international level.

3. Membership

CH-AGRAM is affiliated with the International Commission of Agricultural Engineering (ICAE), the International Commission for Irrigation and Drainage (ICID) and the European Society of Agricultural Engineers (EurAgEng).

CH-AGRAM is a collective member of geosuisse.

It can join regional associations that deal with other topics.

It can modify such privileged relationships at any time after weighing up competing interests, provided that no damage is caused to the associations, institutions and structures represented by its members.

4. Organisation and Institutions

- 4.1. As far as possible, CH-AGRAM includes members representing most of the spheres mentioned under item 1.3 of the regulations. Depending upon the topic, they may invite third parties to their meetings.

Members may be individual or collective members, representatives or delegates of associations, structures or institutions which are active on the national level in the same subject areas as the Commission, or in related areas. They are appointed by co-optation.

- 4.2. CH-AGRAM is self-constituting, forming a committee on which the Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer serve. The committee deals with ongoing tasks. CH-AGRAM can assign further responsibilities to the committee. CH-GRAM can employ working groups to fulfil its duties.
- 4.3. CH-AGRAM's budgetary planning is entrusted to the committee's treasurer. The auditing of accounts is performed by two rank-and-file members. The latter may call for an external expert assessment.
- 4.4. CH-AGRAM holds at least one meeting per annum. The meetings are convened by the Chair, or in his or her absence, by the Vice-Chair.
- 4.5. CH-AGRAM adopts its resolutions by a majority of present and voting members. In the event of an equality of votes, the Chair has a casting vote. Decisions can be taken by correspondence.

5. Financial Resources and Expenses

- 5.1. CH-AGRAM's financial resources consist of the following:

- Membership dues
- Contributions from the SATW
- Donations and bequests to the SATW for the attention of CH-AGRAM
- The assets from the dissolution of the Swiss National Association for Agricultural Engineering, Irrigation and Drainage.

- 5.2. Membership dues are dependent upon the type of representation of each individual member on this Commission (individual representation, collective representation of professional associations, academic organisations, governmental offices or private businesses, etc.) A document drawn up by the Committee and approved by the members lays down the rules and the amount of the dues. This document may be revised and amended at any time.

- 5.3. CH-AGRAM members and designated third parties may claim a contribution towards the costs of their active participation, particularly in international activities, within the framework the annually available funds. The rules and principles governing the reimbursement of costs are discussed and decided at the annual general meeting of the Commission.

6. Amendments and Dissolution

Decisions regarding amendments and /or dissolution of the Commission are to be taken with a qualified majority, i.e. two-thirds of the members. This relates to the following:

- Amendments to the present regulations;
- Amendments regarding membership of the SATW or other associations and commissions on a national level;
- Amendments regarding membership of international associations and commissions;
- The dissolution of the Commission.

The present 'By-laws' document was approved in principle by the members at CH-AGRAM's constitutive general meeting of 21 October 2004 and ratified with minor editorial amendments at the general meeting of 10 March 2005. Additional amendments were approved by circular letter with the date of 6 March 2012.

For the accuracy of execution:

Tänikon, 6 March 2012

Robert Kaufmann, Chairman

Enclosure 1: List of Annual Dues according to Type of Representation

Enclosure 2: Table of Cost Reimbursement for Representation of CH-AGRAM

List of Annual Dues according to Type of Representation
(Approved at the Constitutive General Meeting of 21 October 2004)

Composition of the Commission:

The Commission numbers among its ranks members who as far as possible represent the entire subject area of crop husbandry in the broadest sense (as per the definition of the ICAE) via institutions, governmental offices, associations, planning offices and industrial enterprises. Membership dues are dependent on the scope and type of representation.

Table of dues according to type of representation:

	Annual dues	
<u>I. ETH, universities, Higher education and research institutions</u>		
<i>e.g. ETH, Agroscope</i>	CHF	1,000.--
<u>II. Universities of applied sciences, technical colleges</u>	CHF	500.--
<i>e.g. UAS's of Western (French-speaking), Eastern (German-speaking) and Italian-speaking Switzerland</i>		
<u>III. Governmental offices</u>		
a. Swiss Confederation	CHF	1,000.--
<i>e.g. FOAG, FOEN</i>		
b. Canton, region, municipality	CHF	500.--
<i>e.g. Conférence des AF-latins suisse(m)elio SIGE (Vevey Water Board)</i>		
<u>IV. Professional associations</u>		
a. Per group and sub-group	CHF	500.--
<i>e.g. Geosuisse, SVBL</i>		
b. SIA Water/Soil/Air	CHF	1,000.--
<u>V. Industry</u>	CHF	500.--
<u>VI. Private offices</u>	CHF	100.--
<u>VII. Individual members</u>	CHF	100.--

**Table of Cost Reimbursement to CH-AGRAM Members
for Official Representation of the Commission
(Approved at the Constitutive General Meeting of 21 October 2004)**

Representation		Per representation	
a.	One person	Maximum flat rate:	CHF 500.--
b.	Two or more people from the same institution, governmental office, etc.	Maximum flat rate:	CHF 800.--