

## Rules of Procedure of GALCI

### Name

The name of the IFOAM Group is GALCI - Grupo de America Latina y el Caribe de IFOAM.

### Nature of the group

GALCI is an organ within IFOAM, organizing IFOAM membership and collaborators in Latin America and the Caribbean.

### Objective

The purpose of GALCI is:

- to pursue IFOAM's objectives within Latin America and the Caribbean
- to represent its members within IFOAM
- to represent its members to the outside

GALCI - Grupo de América Latina y el Caribe de IFOAM aims regional and sub-regional integration in issues that its members prioritise in accordance with the existing biological and social and cultural diversity. Regional needs give the working framework for GALCI's lobby on the internal agenda of IFOAM, being a support to accomplish IFOAM Program. Fosters and establishes relations with other stakeholders and like-minded organisations for national, regional and international lobbying with the aim to improve life quality and world happiness.

### Membership

There are two categories of affiliation with the group, all of them with voting rights:

- Member and associate of IFOAM.
- Supporters of IFOAM
- Individuals who have an assigned function within the IFOAM Internal Structure.

The criteria for membership is:

- (a) IFOAM members & associates with institutional address and main activity in LA&C region,
- (b) IFOAM supporters with address and main activity in LA&C region, and
- (c) Individuals living and working in LA&C region, elected, assigned, or appointed to serve on IFOAM boards, committees, task forces, working groups, etc. while the mandate lasts.

#### **Affiliation procedure**

- (a) Organizations and individuals fulfilling the above criteria that have been present at the Foundation General Assembly or represented by proxies, are automatically considered as GALCI members.
- (b) Organizations and individuals fulfilling criteria for membership, that have accepted GALCI's invitation to become a member or asked to be a member in writing (no specific format required).

The GALCI Board decides upon admission of members and associates. It may expel affiliates that act against the Federation's objectives or interests. The decisions may be appealed to IFOAM.

GALCI may invite non members to its meetings as observers.

#### **Organs**

The official organs of GALCI are the General Assembly and the GALCI Board. A co-ordinator carries out their decisions.

The General Assembly or the GALCI Board may set up Working Groups, Committees and task groups and delegate specific tasks or authorities to such bodies or to individuals.

#### **General Assembly**

A General Assembly shall be held at least every three years. It is announced in writing by the GALCI Board. General assemblies must be announced three months in advance.

The General Assembly elects a Chair of the GA. The General Assembly votes by simple majority. Voting is open or by secret ballot, if so requested by one member. Members have one vote. Associate and Individual members can vote. Votes by written proxy are permitted, but restricted to a total of five votes per person.

Upon request by the Board or five members jointly decisions may be taken by electronic or written ballot vote.

Decisions of the General Assembly are recorded in Minutes, which are signed by the Chair and distributed to all the members and to IFOAM.

On the written request of 25 % of the members or by IFOAM an extraordinary General Assembly shall be called.

#### **Election of the GALCI Board**

The following officers will be elected by simple majority vote at each General Assembly

- Chair
- Vice Chair
- Treasurer

In addition the GA will appoint 3 Board members.

#### **Contact point**

The co-ordinator shall be the point of contact with IFOAM, and shall be responsible for communication with members.

#### **GALCI Board**

The GALCI Board decides all issues not yet determined by the General Assembly. The GALCI Board has to establish rules of procedure for itself. The GALCI Board takes decisions by simple majority with at least half of the members present and by open vote. On the request of three GALCI Board members a meeting is called with six weeks notice.

The GALCI Board appoints a co-ordinator who organizes the office in execution of the decisions of GALCI under guidance by the GALCI Board.

#### **Amendments, Modifications**

The GALCI Board may unanimously pass provisional amendments of these rules that remain in force until the relative decision is taken by the next General Assembly. Any such amendments have to be made known to all members at least three months before they are implemented. Any modification of the ruled proposed by the GALCI Board should be sent to the members not less than two months before the next General Assembly.

Any amendments to the rules of procedure must be approved by the IFOAM World Board before they enter into force.

#### **Finances**

Membership fees are fixed by the General Assembly. Any membership fees must be approved by IFOAM before they enter into force. There have not been established any membership fee, so far. The Board will have to design a fund-raising strategy to carry out the work plan.

#### **Communication with IFOAM**

All relevant decision shall be communicated to IFOAM in English.

#### **Termination**

When GALCI is terminated its remaining assets shall be transferred to IFOAM.

*Approved by the GALCI Founding Assembly, Lima, Peru, 25<sup>th</sup> January 2006*

*Confirmed by the IFOAM Executive Board, Thies, Senegal, 30 June 2006*