



UNION OF EUROPEAN ACADEMIES
FOR SCIENCE APPLIED TO AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND NATURE

FOREWORD

The Academies and similar Institutions of Europe, which are committed to the advancement of science for Agriculture, for Food and Nature, meeting in Bologna on 13th and 14th November 1999 and in Florence on 20th October 2000,

- having emphasised the strategic value of Scientific Research for technical, economical, environmental and social development;
- having highlighted the contribution that cultural institutions, such as the Academies, offer for the production and dissemination of knowledge, innovation, and of sustainable development;
- having noted the importance of science as applied to multifaceted agricultural activities, including all those aspects associated with food production and safety and conservation of resources;
- having regard for the need to strengthen international co-operation

have declared it fitting that they agree:

- to strengthen the ties of collaboration, with each other, in the spirit of European Unity;
- to establish a permanent union to maintain these ties, while respecting the independence of each member, so as to encourage and support the carrying-out of common action programmes;
- to adopt as main objectives:
 1. To promote academic activities related to the science of agriculture, the production of food and the conservation of resources;
 2. To promote the production and dissemination of knowledge, the new technologies, innovation and sustainable development;
 3. To encourage the exchange of information between members;
 4. To ensure the production of correct information for the proper education of public opinion particularly for younger consumers;
 5. To promote relationships between scientists throughout the world;
 6. To promote the acceptance of scientific methodology;
 7. To give advice, and to make recommendations, to opinion formers and decision makers within and without Europe.

On the basis of the above-mentioned principles, the undersigned representatives of the Academies and Institutions of Europe, with the present act constitute the “Union of European Academies for Science applied to Agriculture, Food and Nature”, with the following Charter:

CHARTER

I – Members

I.1 - Academies and similar Institutions of European countries which are committed to the Science for the advancement of Agriculture, for Food and Nature may become members of the “Union Of European Academies For Science Applied To Agriculture, Food And Nature”, (“UEAA”).

I.2 - Other Academies and similar Cultural Institutions which pursue the same objectives in Europe, may apply to become members of UEAA.

I.3 - Membership requests are subject to the final approval by the General Assembly.

II - The General Assembly

II.1 - The General Assembly is made up of the Members and is convened every two years. Each Member may participate formally with a maximum of two representatives.

II.2 - Other Organisations interested in the questions set down on the agenda of a meeting of the General Assembly, may from time to time, be invited as *observers*.

II.3 - Each proposal submitted to the approval of the General Assembly must be formally presented as a written proposal by the Steering Committee or by at least ten Members.

II.4 - The General Assembly, having heard the Report by the President of the Steering Committee, expresses its opinion on the activities of UEAA, deliberates with regard to the acceptance of new Members, elects the Members of the Steering Committee, and adopts the necessary provisions for the Charter and the activities of the Union.

II.5 - The costs for the organisation of the General Assembly Meetings are the responsibility of the hosting Member. Travel and subsistence expense shall be borne by each participant.

III - The Steering Committee

III.1 - The Steering Committee is composed of 7 to 9 Members, as follows:

- a representative of the Member who hosted the previous General Assembly;
- a representative of the Member who will host the following General Assembly;
- Members elected by the General Assembly, half of whom must be renewed every two years. The election is by absolute majority of those present at the Assembly.

III.2 - The Steering Committee meets before the General Assembly, in order to finalise its preparations and immediately following the General Assembly so as to put into effect what has been deliberated. The Steering Committee may autonomously decide on the need for further meetings of its own.

III.3 - Members of the Steering Committee may remain in office for a maximum of six consecutive years. The President of the Steering Committee is designated by the Member who hosted the previous General Assembly Meeting; the Vice-President is designated by the Member who is to host the following one. The latter assumes the Presidency in the Meeting immediately preceding the General Assembly which he is to host.

III.4 - The Steering Committee must ensure continuity between the two successive General Assemblies, by implementing the recommendations of the previous one and preparing the programme for the following one; it must oversee the activities and represent UEAA, establish relations with other Institutions and Organisations; it must decide quickly on urgent issues and in potentially contentious issues, inform all Members accordingly and submit the actions undertaken to the approval of the following General Assembly.

IV - Headquarters

UEAA will be hosted by the Member who designated the President in office, or by another Member at the proposal of the President in office.