



**Statutes of
The Arab Science & Technology Foundation**

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**Chapter One
Introduction to the Arab Science & Technology Foundation and Its Mission**

Article (1)

This document shall be referred to as “*The Statutes of the Arab Science & Technology Foundation* “ and shall become effective from the date of its endorsement.

Article (2)

The Arab Science & Technology Foundation is an autonomous non-governmental and non-for-profit global scientific Arab institution enjoying general corporate personality. It is the first scientific organization to bring that together scientists from inside and outside the Arab world with the aim of utilizing local and expatriate expertise in sciences and technology whether women or men, in order to serve the Arab World in particular, and the humanity in general towards the advancement of scientific and technological researches in the Arab countries.

Article (3)

The headquarters of the Arab Science & Technology Foundation shall be situated in the city of Sharjah, United Arab Emirates, and may establish other centers, branches, and communication points in the capital cities of the Arab countries and worldwide which have scientific organizations and groups that are willing to participate in the foundation’s activities.

Article (4)

The foundation pledges, in all its activities to work in cooperation and coordinate with the universities, scientific research centers, scientific unions and with scientists technology and scholars in the Arab region and worldwide. The foundation shall also contribute to develop new trends for the scientific and business works and scholars' communities, through networking partnerships, alliances, and multilateral projects on the national, regional and international levels.

The foundation shall adhere, in all its activities to the internationally accepted criteria for assessing scientific competence take into consideration terms of the customary scientific neighbors which is adopted in the developed industrial countries. The foundation and shall also observe the ethical principles of sciences as laid down stipulated in the charter of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the International Council of Scientific Unions.

Chapter Two
The Foundation's Missions and Objectives

Article (5)

The foundation's mission shall be the encouragement and support of excellence and innovation in the scientific and technological research in the Arab Countries and to develop the ways and means for coordination and cooperation among individual scholars and scientific organizations for the sake of employing their knowledge to serve the ongoing development in the Arab countries.

Article (6)

The foundation aims to complement the efforts exerted by the existing scientific institutions in the Arab countries without duplicating or competing with them in order to accomplish the ongoing development in the Arab World, and for this sake, the foundation shall undertake the following:-

1. Develop and mobilize human and tangible resources in support of scientific and technological proposed research project according to their merits and compliance with the development priorities.
2. Supporting modes of liaison in selected fields of sciences and technology research and adopt joint programs between individuals and scientific institutions in such fields according to their relevance to development.
3. Carrying out studies and arrange expert meetings, workshops and symposia to exchange views on scientific and technological issues that have an impact on the priorities set for development.
4. Promote cooperation endeavors and set up specialized networks and programs for exchange of information and experience between the organizations interested in enhancing the scientific and technological capabilities in the Arab countries and their counterparts in the developed and developing countries.
5. Act as a mediator between those who produce, develop and finance scientific research on the one hand and the beneficiaries thereof on the other.

The foundation may assume any other activities that may achieve the aforesaid objectives.

Chapter Three
The Organizational Structure of The Foundation

Article (7)

The organizational structure of the foundation shall consist of the following main bodies:

- A. The Board of Trustees.
- B. The Board of Directors.
- C. The Executive Office.
- D. The permanent and ad hoc committees.

The Board of Trustees

Article (8)

The Board of Trustees shall be the supervising body over the general policy of the foundation headed by the honorary president of the foundation who shall, in the first meeting of the Board of Trustees, endorse the appointment of the members from the list of candidates submitted by the Board of Directors. The Board shall afterwards select its new members, which shall in all cases include the president of the foundation as a member thereof.

Article (9)

The Board of Trustees shall consist of a maximum of fifteen members to be selected from eminent personages, businessmen, researchers, intellectuals and scholars dedicated to the scientific and technological advancement in the Arab World.

Article (10)

The Board of Trustees shall undertake the supervision function of the general policy of the foundation to ensure the fulfillment of its mission and objectives, and in particular the Board of trustees shall assume the following functions:

1. Support the mission of the foundation mission and disseminate its objectives and activities on the Arab, regional and international levels.
2. Supervise the attainment of financial resources for the foundation and consolidate its Arab, regional and international ties.
3. Approve the periodical reports submitted by the Board of Directors on the prosecution of the foundation's activities, its accomplishments, the financial status and issue directives relevant thereto.
4. Approve the appointment of the foundation's president and his deputies as nominated by the Board of Directors.
5. Discharge any member(s) of the Board of Directors, if he commits an act offensive to the foundation.
6. Appoint an independent external entity, upon the recommendation of the Board

of Directors, to evaluate the activities and performance of the foundation, and review its balance sheet, statements of account and all other documents pertaining to the conduct of its business and present periodical reports thereon to the Board of Trustees in accordance with the accredited rules and regulations and in light of the plans and agendas set by the foundation.

Article (11)

Membership of the Board of Trustees shall be valid for four renewable years.

Article (12)

The Board shall meet at least once every two years to review and issue directives with respect to the purposes of examining the financial report which must include the budget of the new financial term, the achievements of the foundation, the accomplished plans and programs and any possible hindrances and discuss ways and means to overcome them as per the suggestions embodied in the comprehensive report of the Board of Directors and the financial auditors.

Article (13)

Extraordinary meetings shall be held upon the request of the chairman of the Board of Trustees or the chairman of the Board of Directors or upon the request of a minimum of one half of the members of the Board of Trustees, and where necessary, a member of the board of trustees may delegate any person having interest in the activities of the foundation, to attend any specific session on his behalf.

The Board of Directors

Article (14)

The Board of Directors shall be the responsible body for running the foundation affairs and organizing its general works and follow up the implementation of its resolutions, programs and the various aspects of activities as laid down in the foundation's plans..

Article (15)

The Board shall consist of scientists, distinguished scholars and researchers and elevated personages having active roles in the general affairs and fields related to sciences and technology. The Board of Directors consist of a minimum of seven members and a maximum of thirteen members including the president. In forming the Board of Directors proper balance must be maintained between scholars from inside and outside the Arab countries as well as between the various scientific specialties and the different geographical regions in the Arab countries. Periodicity of membership must also be observed.

Article (16)

The Board of Directors shall assume the following functions:-

1. Setting up plans, programs and projects that would serve the foundation's objectives and ensure attainment of the necessary financial resources thereof.
2. Drawing up the Budget of the foundation.
3. Issuing the administrative and financial regulations for the foundation, the organizational structure and any amendments thereto.
4. Receiving grants, endowments and other donations from the Arab governments; the national, regional and international entities and individuals without impediment to the non-profit objectives and principles of the foundation.
5. Appointing the body (ies), which shall undertake the investment of the foundation's funds and set up guidelines for them.
6. Studying all matters referred to it by the Board of Trustees and from the president of the foundation on any relevant issues and for this purpose form specialized committees if needed.
7. Endorsing the grants, rewards and subsidies allotted for carrying out scientific research.
8. Recommending an impartial external entity to evaluate the activities and performance of the foundation and review the foundation's balance sheet, statements of account and all relevant documents required for the conduct of its business in accordance with the accredited practices and regulations and in light of the foundation's plans and agendas. Following that, the matter shall afterwards be brought before the Board of Trustees for approval pursuant to Article 10(6). Paragraph (6).
9. Selecting the new members of the Board of Directors as well as the president and his deputies prior to the approval of the Board of Trustees.

Article (17)

Three new members shall be admitted to the Board of Directors one year after the date of endorsement of this statute and annually thereafter, one fourth of the members excluding the president shall be replaced either of their own decision or by votes cast. The Board shall select substitutes for the vacancies for a term of four years and shall afterwards be entitled to renew membership for only one further term.

Article (18)

The Board shall hold a minimum of one meeting every year. The quorum required for the validity of such a meeting shall be at least one half of the members. Date and location shall be fixed three months prior to the convening of the meeting unless necessity dictates a shorter notice provided that it is approved by two thirds of the members. Any member who fails to attend one meeting without an acceptable excuse or who absents himself for two consecutive meetings shall be deemed to have resigned. Should the need arise, the Board shall be entitled to form a committee of three of the members including the

president to be delegated the powers of the Board during the absence period and the committee shall convene twice a year.

Article (19)

In selecting members for the Board of Directors account must be taken that they should be from renowned personages in their fields of practice, that they are known for their uprightness in the performance of their works, and that the candidate must show absolute willingness to serve the foundation and to adopt its mission. Account must also be taken of the other considerations specified in Article (15) hereof when selecting members for the Board.

Article (20)

Members of the Board of Directors shall discharge their duties without compensation and the foundation shall bear the expenses of their attending the Board's meetings. A member is obliged to declare in advance if he has any personal interest in any of the issues presented before the Board and shall, likewise, refrain from participating in the discussion and voting on any decision relevant thereto.

The President of the Foundation

Article (21)

The Board of Directors shall select a president for the foundation from within its members who is a citizen of UAE for a term of six renewable years, and refer such selection for approval by the Board of Trustees.

Article (22)

The president of the foundation shall be responsible for implementing the general policy of the foundation that would accomplish its objectives, as well as its management in terms of scientific, administrative and financial aspects. In addition to that, the president shall also be responsible for the implementation of the laws, regulations and the execution of the relevant resolutions. The president shall represent the foundation before other local, regional and international institutions.

Article (23)

The president of the foundation shall be assisted by Deputies selected by the Board of Directors and approved by the Board of Trustees. The president of the foundation may delegate some of his powers to any one of his assistants during his absence.

Article (24)

The president of the foundation shall submit to the Board of trustees every two years a

report from the Board of Directors showing the research projects accomplished, plans and programs and other activities undertaken towards achieving the objectives of the foundation on the Arab, regional, & international levels together with any recommendations for the Board of Trustees' proper action.

The Executive Office

Article (25)

The Executive Office shall be set up pursuant to a resolution to be issued by the Board of Directors upon the recommendation of the president of the foundation. The executive office shall consist of the following:

1. The president of the foundation, who shall preside over the office.
2. The department directors (unit heads) of the foundation who shall be hired progressively according to the actual needs of the foundation.

The president may call upon other members from the Board of Directors, head of committees or others to attend the meetings of the Executive Office on the basis of their relevance to the issues contained in the agenda.

Article (26)

The Executive Office shall be in charge of managing and implementing the foundation's programs and running the daily business and any other related affairs in accordance with the work rules and principles as set by the approved laws and regulations and in particular the following:

1. Implementing the policies and resolutions passed by the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors .
2. Following up the flow of work at the various units of the foundation and taking whatever it deems appropriate action thereon.
3. Drafting the internal rules and regulations of the foundation and any amendment thereof, in preparation for their presentation to the Board of Directors for approval.
4. Preparing an annual report on the office's activities to be presented to Board of Directors.
5. Advising on the draft budget and on the entity(s) that will be responsible for investing the funds of the foundation and set the necessary plans and programs in that respect, in preparation for presenting the same to Board of Directors for approval.
6. Drafting agendas for the Board of Trustees' meetings and the meetings of the Board of Directors and prepare the relevant documents thereto.
7. Arranging for the needs required by the secretariat of the Board of Trustees and secretariat of the Board of Directors as well as for the needs of the other committees of the foundation.

Chapter Five
The Budget of the Foundation

Article (27)

Firstly: The revenues of the foundation shall consist of from the following:

1. Governmental contributions from the Arab countries.
2. Contributions supporting scientific research from Arab institutions, banks and treasuries.
3. Donations, gifts, legacies, endowments, grants and presents offered by individuals, charitable institutions and concerned companies.
4. Contributions from Arab organizations, regional and international organizations associated with the United Nations and contributions from other institutions that support scientific research.
5. Contributions from the concerned Arab scientific centers and institutions.
6. Companies benefiting from the results of the researches adopted by the foundation.
7. Returns of investing the foundation's funds.
8. Income generated from marketing printed materials and other scientific material produced by the foundation.
9. Any other resources agreed by the Board of Directors and approved by the Board of Trustees.

Secondly : The Foundation shall aim at creating its own endowment that would maintain its autonomy and secure its continuity to perform its mission. Such endowment shall continue to be allotted for investment purposes provided that the returns shall be used to replenish the endowment itself and to meet the expenses of the foundation's programs and affairs.

Thirdly: The purposes behind all the contributions from the various bodies and individuals, whether financial or tangible, shall be in conformity with the foundation's objectives and shall not affect its autonomy.

General Provisions

Article (28)

The assemblies referred to herein shall not be deemed eligible unless with the presence of a minimum of one half of the members, and the resolutions shall be issued upon the approval of a majority of the present voters except in certain cases where a special stipulation is made. The abstaining votes shall not be taken into consideration regardless of the causes of abstention, and in the event of an equality of votes, the president shall have a casting vote.

Article (29)

The authorization referred to under Article (23) herein shall not be deemed eligible unless the delegated capacities and powers are exclusively stated, the authorization term is fixed and the authorized person's name and title are specifically identified. The authorization term shall not exceed one year and it shall be feasible for the authorizing party to terminate the authorization at any time.

Article (30)

The foundation's president shall endorse the formation of the supporting units and bodies necessary for the flow of work towards accomplishing the foundation's objectives and activities in accordance with the limitations of the budget approved by the Board of Directors .

Article (31)

The foundation's activities shall be financed through the grants; gifts and endowments presented by individuals and the monetary aids from the Arab and international governments, and private institutions. The foundation shall proceed to invest its revenues and to utilize the returns gained from the activities, works, associations and research projects, in accordance with the regulations and rules, maintaining the non-profitable nature thereof as accredited by the Board of Directors. The foundation shall be committed to annually disclose the sources of its financing and channels of expenditure.

Article (32)

The foundation's framework and its open wide scope of activities together with the multiple objectives thereof available for individuals, unions, organizations and works in the Arab countries and the world, shall provide innovative forms of subscription, participation and alliance. All researchers, individuals and organizations that participated in the "Scientific Research in The Arab World and New Horizons of the Third Millennium" seminar that was held in Sharjah from April 24 – 26, 2000, which recommended the establishment of the foundation, shall be entitled to attend the foundation's general congresses as observers.

Article (33)

The Board of Directors shall be entitled to nominate prominent Arab and international personages to the foundation's honor list.

Article (34)

The present Statute and the provisions stipulated therein shall not be subject to amendment unless upon the recommendation of the Board of Directors upheld by a majority of two thirds of the members thereof and the ultimate approval of the Board of Trustees.

Article (35)

The Statute shall be in force from the Board of Directors' approval date thereon, until the Board of Trustees passes it for approval in its first assembly.

The present document has been unanimously approved of on October 30, 2000 in the Arab Science & Technology Foundation's first assembly held in the Emirate of Sharjah from October 28th – 30th, 2000 with the consensus of Messrs of the Board of Directors members and Messrs of the participants in the assembly.

Dr. Abdullah Abdul'aziz Al Najjar
President of the Arab Science & Technology Foundation