

AIM2 - Association for Interactive Multimodal Information Management

Statutes, version of March 20th, 2012

I. Name and Seat

- Art. 1. ¹ ‘Association for Interactive Multimodal Information Management’ or AIM2 is the name of a non-profit association according to Art. 60 of the Swiss Civil Code.
 ² The seat of AIM2 shall be at the professional location of its President.

II. Purpose

- Art. 2. ¹ The purpose of AIM2 is to promote the field of Interactive Multimodal Information Management by strengthening the corresponding education, research, development and dissemination activities according to the principles laid down in the AIM2 Manifesto.
 ² In line with its purpose, AIM2 supports its community of interest in:
 a. Facilitating dissemination of knowledge through the organization of events and publications.
 b. Setting up and conducting research and development projects;
 c. Encouraging consulting and technology transfer;
 d. Mediating exchanges of data corpora, software and know-how;
 e. Promoting teaching and educational activities;

III. Membership

- Art. 3. *Membership categories*
 ¹ AIM2 shall be composed of individual, institutional, corporate and honorary members.
 ² *Individual members* are persons involved/interested in AIM2-related research and development activities.
 ³ *Institutional members* are non-profit organizations, scientific research institutes, universities and public administrations involved/interested in AIM2-related research and development activities. Institutional members shall be represented in AIM2 by individuals acting as delegates.
 ⁴ *Corporate members* are companies involved/interested in AIM2-related research and development activities. Corporate members shall be represented in AIM2 by individuals acting as delegates.

⁵ *Honorary members* are specially appointed persons in recognition of their exceptional merits in serving AIM2's objectives.

Art. 4. *Admission*

¹ Candidates to become an individual, institutional or corporate members of AIM2 shall send a written application to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee decides on their admission. Membership starts after the admission decision.

² Individual membership shall also be provided to professors in universities recognised by the Confederation who pay the annual institutional membership fee.

³ Honorary members shall be appointed by the General Assembly.

Art. 5. *Resignation*

¹ Resignation from membership shall take place at year end only. Written notifications of resignation shall be submitted to the Executive Committee at least one month in advance.

² Members who do not respect AIM2's Statutes, in particular by neglecting their financial obligations, can be expelled by the Executive Committee.

Art. 6. *Membership Fees Duration*

Members owe fees depending on the duration of their membership.

IV. Organisation

- Art. 7. The offices of AIM2 shall be
- a. The General Assembly,
 - b. The Executive Committee,
 - c. The Auditor
 - d.

Art. 8. *General Assembly*

¹ The General Assembly shall be the highest authority of AIM2.

² The General Assembly shall take place at least once a year. The Executive Committee or one fifth of the members can call an extraordinary General Assembly.

³ All AIM2 members are invited to participate in the General Assembly.

⁴ General Assembly decisions shall be recorded in its minutes.

Art. 9. *Invitation to the General Assembly*

¹ The General Assembly shall be convened by the Executive Committee at least four weeks in advance through an invitation accompanied by an initial list of agenda topics.

² Proposals for additions or modifications to the list of agenda topics shall be submitted to the Executive Committee at least 14 days before the Assembly date.

The Executive Committee decides to include them or not in the final agenda.

Art. 10. *Duties of the General Assembly*

The General Assembly is competent for

- a. The election of Executive Committee members and of the Auditor,
- b. The approval of the annual reports of the President as well as of the minutes of the last General Assembly,
- c. The approval of the annual accounts of AIM2 cognizant of the Auditor's reports,
- d. The approval of AIM2's budget,
- e. The handling of appeals against Executive Committee decisions regarding membership according to Art. 4, para. 1, and Art. 5, para. 2.
- f. Modifications of the Statutes and the dissolution of AIM2.

Art. 11. *Voting rights at the General Assembly*

¹ Voting rights are held by present or represented individual members and delegates of institutional and corporate members.

² Individual members can only be represented by other members of the same university or research organization. Individual members representing other members shall, at the beginning of the General Assembly, give to the President a list of the represented members.

³ Individual members have one vote, institutional and corporate members two votes. Honorary members have only advisory votes.

⁴ The General Assembly takes decisions by the simple majority of votes. In case of equality, the President shall decide, with the reservation of para. 5.

⁵ Modifications of the Statutes require a two-thirds majority of all votes of present or represented members.

Art. 12. *Executive Committee composition*

¹ The Committee is composed of at least 3 members, including the President, plus 2 members elected by the General Assembly.

² The Committee meets as often as required.

³ The Committee members act voluntarily and can only be compensated for their effective and travel costs. For activities exceeding the usual function, each committee member can receive appropriate compensation.

Art. 13. *Duties of the Executive Committee*

¹ The Committee elects, once a year, the President of the Association amongst its members. For this election, each member of the Executive Committee has one vote, independently of its category.

² The Committee is authorized to carry out all acts that further the purposes of the association. It is authorized to manage the Organization's business.

³ The Executive Committee shall conduct AIM2's operations in all areas except those

reserved to the General Assembly.

⁴ Among the Executive Committee's duties are explicitly

- a. The preparation of the General Assembly and the execution of its decisions,
- b. Conclusion, cancellation and supervision of contracts for AIM2,
- c. The financial operations of AIM2,
- d. The setting of the annual scale of fees,
- e. The update of the AIM2 Manifesto,
- f. The admission and expulsion of members, with the reservation of decisions by the General Assembly according to Art. 10, lit. f,

⁵ The Executive Committee can install committees for special duties. It shall inform the General Assembly accordingly.

⁶ The Executive Committee shall represent AIM2 to the outside world. It shall define those persons who can legally sign for AIM2.

Art. 14. *Executive Committee operation*

¹ The association shall be validly bound by the joint signature of the President and another member of the Committee.

² The Executive Committee shall meet when needed.

³ The invitations shall normally come from the President, in writing, at least 10 days prior to the meeting date. They are accompanied by the proposed agenda. The Executive Committee can decide on other invitation means, in particular electronic ones.

⁴ The Executive Committee shall be able to conduct business when the majority of its members are either physically present or are directly connected to the meeting through telecommunication. Decisions shall be taken by the absolute majority of its members.

⁵ The Executive Committee shall record its decisions in minutes.

Art. 15. *Auditor*

¹ Upon proposals from the Executive Committee, an Auditor shall be elected by the General Assembly for two years.

² The Auditor shall inspect the accounts of AIM2 and reports about them to the General Assembly.

V. Property rights

Art. 16. *Intellectual property rights of the Members*

All patents, copyrights or other intellectual property owned or created by any Member shall remain the property of that Member. Such ownership shall not be affected in any way by the Member's participation in AIM2, unless the Member specifically agrees otherwise.

All material presented to AIM2 or its Committees shall be deemed to be of a non

confidential nature and hence suitable for public distribution, unless the Member specifically requests otherwise, and the Executive Committee approves this request.

Art. 17. *Intellectual property rights of AIM2*

Through its activities, AIM2 may generate protectable intellectual property rights. The IPRs remain the property of the Members involved in such activities.

Art. 18. *AIM2's publications*

AIM2 publishes documents to promote its objectives and purposes.

Individual members or employees of institutional members may be cited as co-authors when appropriate.

Art. 19. *Other property rights*

The use of any Member's name, trademarks or trade names by AIM2 including a Member description of AIM2's work requires prior written consent of the concerned Member, even after the Member is no longer part of AIM2

VI. Finances

Art. 20. *General rules*

¹ The revenues of AIM2 shall include: the members' annual fees, contributions from institutions supporting and participating in research activities, compensations for services, donations from sponsors and services rendered to AIM2 free of charge.

² AIM2's expenses shall include: contributions to international organizations and projects, expenses related to AIM2 events, as well as travel and clerical expenses related to scientific and administrative operations.

³ The accounting period is the calendar year.

Art. 21. *Annual dues*

¹ Annual membership fees are determined by the Executive Committee and are presented for approval during a duly convened General Assembly.

² Honorary members shall not pay membership fees.

³ There shall be no other financial obligations for members, and there shall be no distribution of AIM2 assets to members.

VII. Dissolution of AIM2

Art. 22. ¹ The dissolution of AIM2 shall be decided by the General Assembly, similarly to a modification of the Statutes.

² In case of dissolution and liquidation of the Association, AIM2 assets remaining from its liquidation shall be distributed on a non exclusive basis among the partners involved in the creation of the assets or to an association pursuing a similar purpose

as AIM2 or to the Swiss National Science Foundation.

VIII. Transitional arrangements

Art. 23. The present Statutes have been approved by the Constituent Assembly of AIM2 on April 2nd in Lausanne.

For the Association,

François Foglia, President

Denis Lalanne, founding member

Stéphane Marchand-Maillet, founding member