



Bylaws of the Caribaea Initiative Association

(Adopted at the Founding Meeting, October 9, 2014, and modified at the Annual General Meeting, August 26, 2016 (Art. 2))

Article 1. – Approval of New Members

To be accepted, new members must be sponsored and introduced by two members of the Association, including at least one founding member.

A new member is authorized to join by the Board of Directors, by majority vote of all its members.

The Board of Directors shall rule at each of its meetings on the membership requests submitted.

Applicants who would like to join the Association must fill out a membership form.

Article 2. – Amount of Dues

In accordance with Articles 8 and 9 of the Articles of Association, all members, except for those who are exempt, must pay dues.

On January 1, 2017, the amount of the annual dues is:

- Free for students who can provide proof (with no age limit), and for anyone under 18 on May 1 of the current year;
- 10 euros for standard member dues;
- 30 euros for supporting member dues;
- 150 euros (minimum) for benefactor members;
- 1500 euros for lifetime members.

The amount of the annual dues can be modified at the Annual General Meeting as proposed by the Board of Directors.

Article 3. – Resignation – Termination – Death of a Member

a. The letter of resignation must be sent to the President of the Board of Directors by registered mail. It does not have to be justified by the resigning member.



b. As stipulated in Article 10 of the Articles of Association, the termination of a member can be decided upon by the Board of Directors on serious grounds. Serious grounds include:

- a penal condemnation for any crime or misdemeanor;
- any action that may directly or indirectly undermine the activities of the Association or its reputation.

The decision to exclude somebody must be adopted by the Board of Directors with a two-thirds majority vote of the members present.

c. If a member passes away, his or her heirs or legatees cannot make any claims to maintaining membership in the Association.

Dues paid to the Association can in no case be reimbursed, even if it concerns a resignation, termination, or the death of a member during the year.

Article 4. – Annual General Meetings: Voting Procedures

a. Votes of the Members Present

The members present shall vote by raising their hand. However, a secret ballot shall be held:

- if the vote concerns a natural person;
- if requested by the Board of Directors or 20% of the members present.

b. Proxy Voting

As stipulated in Article 11 of the Articles of Association, if a member cannot personally attend a Meeting, any member who has voting rights and has paid his or her dues can be represented by another person. The representative must be a member of the Association who has paid his or her dues at the time of the vote. The representative can receive at the most 2 proxies from members residing in metropolitan France, or 3 proxies at the most if at least one of them was established by a member living outside of metropolitan France.



Article 5. –Scientific Council Procedures

The Scientific Council meets as requested by the President of the Association at least once a year. The agenda for the meetings shall be prepared by the President of the Association and the Vice President of the Scientific Council.

The Scientific Council can ask for the written opinions of Science Correspondents or any other experts on questions that are within the scope of its competence. It can interview those who back projects as well as students applying for financial aid from the Association.

Article 6. – Conditions for the Attribution of Funds by the Association

In accordance with Articles 13 and 18 of the Articles of Association, the decision to provide financial support for scientific projects or students shall be made by the Board of Directors, with input from the Scientific Council.

It is the responsibility of the Scientific Council to identify the priority research topics and the students who can be supported by the Association, and to request funds from potential project backers for them, according to the criteria indicated in Article 2 of the Articles of Association.

No requests for funding can be submitted to the Association, beyond the scope of the projects it defines.

Article 7. – Procedures for the Reimbursement of Expenses and Outlays

In accordance with Article 14 of the Articles of Association, any expenses made by members for activities in the interest of the Association shall be reimbursed when they are justified with the original receipts attached to a signed expense sheet. Expenses incurred to attend our different Meetings shall not be reimbursed.

When members travel beyond their place of residence for a mission assigned to them by the Association, they can claim:

- all travelling expenses in exchange for original receipts submitted to the Treasurer;
- mission allowances that are cumulative or separate, depending on the case, corresponding to a set rate for meals and accommodations, and in foreign countries and overseas territories, various expenses are covered in exchange for the original receipts for accommodations submitted to the Treasurer.



The reimbursement of train tickets is based on the price of a first class ticket for the members of the Board of Directors, Honorary Members, and members of the Scientific Council, and for a second class ticket for all other members, unless an exception is granted by the President of the Association.

Plane tickets are reimbursed based on the economy class price for all members, unless an exception is granted by the President of the Association, because of the distance of the trip or the length of the stay.

The amount of mission allowances applied is the one used by the French National Center for Scientific Research (CNRS).

Advances to cover the expenses referred to in the previous paragraphs can be given to members if they so request. The amount of these advances is deducted from the payment order issued at the end of the trip after the members submit their expenses sheets and the original receipts.

Article 8 – Insurance

The Association can take out one or more insurance policies to cover the risks to which it is exposed within the scope of its activities (in terms of its liabilities and damage to its property), and also to cover the personal liability of its officers (President, members of the Board of Directors and of the Scientific Council) in the framework of their missions in the interest of the Association.

However, this insurance is not an obligation, and any members completing a mission in the interest of the Association must be sure that they are covered by their own personal insurance during the entire mission. In particular, if the mission they carry out for the Association is compatible with their service obligations, members of the Association who are civil servants must provide a mission order, but with no expenses claimed from the organization to which they are affiliated.