

# **AFBC Regulations on Congress and Elections**



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## PREAMBLE

Article 16.2 of the Constitution provides that the Board shall make regulations governing the manner in which meetings of the Congress are conducted. Article 26.4 of the Constitution provides that the Board may make such regulations for the conduct of elections to offices on the Board it may consider appropriate.

These Regulations on Congress and Elections aim at completing and facilitating the implementation of the provisions of the Constitution by establishing rules and conditions for the organization of Congress meetings and/or Elections at AFBC.

## INTERPRETATION

- 1.1. Capitalized terms used in these Regulations on Congress and Elections shall have the meaning ascribed to them in the AFBC Constitution.
- 1.2. The following terms – used in these Regulations on Congress and Elections only – have the meanings ascribed to them in this article:

**“Campaign Rules”** means the rules governing electoral campaigning, as further described in article 19 below.

**“Candidacy”** means conducting the necessary action to be a Candidate.

**“Candidate”** means any person who has submitted an application to take part in Elections, or to be appointed as an AFBC Official.

**“Chairperson”** means the person presiding over a Congress meeting as described in article 20 of the Constitution.

**“Constitution”** means the AFBC Constitution adopted on May 12, 2022, along with any further amendments (if any).

**“Code of Ethics”** means the AFBC Code of Ethics.

**“Conflict of Interest Policy”** means the AFBC Conflict of Interest Policy.

**“Delegate”** means a delegate of a National Federation at a meeting of the Congress, including Voting Delegate and Non-Voting Delegate(s).

**“Disciplinary Code”** means the AFBC Disciplinary Code.

**“Elections”** mean a decision-making process by which the Voting Delegates at the Congress meeting choose persons to hold a position as President or Director.

**“Electoral period”** means a period which starts on the day of publication of the list of Candidates as per article 25.6 of the Constitution and closes before the start of the voting on the Elections.

**“Non-Voting Delegate”** means a Delegate appointed by a National Federation to attend a Congress meeting without being entitled to vote.

**“Regulations on Congress and Elections”** mean these AFBC Regulations on Congress and Elections.

**“Voting Delegate”** means a Delegate appointed by a National Federation to represent the National Federation at a Congress meeting with voting rights.

- 1.3. In these Regulations on Congress and Elections, unless otherwise specified:
  - a) references to articles are references to articles in these Regulations on Congress and Elections;
  - b) unless otherwise specified below, references to a “person” shall be construed so as to include any individual, firm, company, corporation, body corporate, government, state or agency of a state, local or municipal authority or government body or any joint venture, association, federation, confederation or partnership (whether or not having separate legal personality);
  - c) a reference to any of the regulations, or to any provision or provisions in the regulations, shall be construed, unless the context otherwise requires, as including a reference to any amendment or replacement made to the same from time to time; and
  - d) in the event of any inconsistency between these Regulations on Congress and Elections and the Constitution, the Constitution shall prevail.
- 1.4. All headings and titles in these Regulations on Congress and Elections have been inserted for ease of reference only and may not be considered as an aid to its interpretation.

## **SECTION A – CONGRESS**

### **2. Form of the Congress meeting**

- 2.1. When convening a meeting of the Congress in accordance with the requirements of the Constitution, the Board shall decide how the Congress meeting shall take place.
- 2.2. The Congress meeting may take place with the physical presence of delegates and/or in exceptional circumstances by means of telecommunications, by audio-visual link, as decided by the Board.
- 2.3. In case of Congress meeting by audio-visual link, AFBC shall ensure that the voting at the Congress meeting is organized with a reliable electronic voting system. In case of elections, the voting process during elections has to be controlled by an independent notary. The electronic voting system (and independent notary, if applicable) shall be proposed by the AFBC Head Office and accepted by the Board.
- 2.4. In case of Congress meeting by audio-visual link, with voting assisted by a reliable electronic voting system (and controlled by an independent notary, if applicable), scrutineers are not necessary.

### **3. Congress meeting location**

- 3.1. Unless a Congress meeting takes place by means of telecommunications, the Board shall decide on the location of the Congress meeting.
- 3.2. AFBC should strive to hold the Congress meetings in different countries and locations at the invitation of a National Federation, preferably on the occasion of an AFBC Competition. For this purpose, the AFBC Head Office may call National Federations for a bid.
- 3.3. The National Federation hosting the Congress shall use its best endeavors to ensure that all delegates are able to obtain the visa necessary for entry into the country and ensure that there is suitable accommodation made available for all Delegates, including those whose costs are not covered by AFBC as per article 6.2.

### **4. Duration**

- 4.1. The Congress duration shall cover the Congress meeting itself, as well as any related events. The dates of the Congress shall be established by the Board.
- 4.2. The Ordinary Congress, including Election Congress Meeting, shall be held within the periods described in the Constitution.
- 4.3. The Extraordinary Congress shall be held over the necessary period.

### **5. Eligible National Federations**

- 5.1. The determination of the National Federations that are deemed to be Eligible National Federations shall occur in accordance with article 15 of the Constitution and the provisions below.
- 5.2. For the purpose of article 15.2 (e) of the Constitution, to be deemed to be an Eligible National Federation, a National Federation must have had a Boxer or Boxers compete during the previous four years in not less than one of the following competitions:
  - (a) IBA World Championships (Men / Women / Youth / Junior);
  - (b) AFBC Championships;
  - (c) International multisport events, including the Olympic Games, the Youth Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, competitions organized by organizations of National Olympic Committees (All Africa Games), competitions organized by the International University Sports Federation and its affiliates, Mediterranean Games, Gymnasiade, competitions organized by GAISF / SportAccord.
  - (d) Qualifying events for the Olympic Games.

- 5.3. Subject to the competence of the AFBC Disciplinary Committee provided for in article 15.3 of the Constitution and of the Ethics Committee, as per article 14 of these Regulations on Congress and Elections, decisions on the eligibility of National Federations to take part in a Congress shall be made by the Board.

## **6. Expenses**

- 6.1. As a general rule, AFBC shall bear the expenses related to the hosting of the Congress. The National Federation hosting the Congress may offer AFBC to cover such expenses either in full or partially.
- 6.2. In case the Congress meeting is held in person, AFBC shall bear the costs of economy class air travel, accommodation and meals for the Voting Delegate attending the Congress meeting. AFBC does not bear any costs of the Non-Voting Delegates, unless otherwise decided by the Board.

## **7. Participation in the Congress**

- 7.1. Each Eligible National Federation shall be represented at the Congress by one Voting Delegate. Each Eligible National Federation may appoint one additional Non-Voting Delegate, who may attend the Congress meeting, without being entitled to vote or speak on behalf of or act as a representative of a National Federation at the Congress.
- 7.2. The names of the Delegates, including the Voting Delegate, shall be submitted to the AFBC Head Office when Eligible National Federations are registering to a Congress as per article 8 of these Regulations on Congress and Elections. Further amendments to this list can only be made under extraordinary circumstances and shall be provided 24 hours before the first day of the Congress at the latest.
- 7.3. The AFBC Head Office enters the Delegates mentioned on to a list (numbered 1 to 3 for each Eligible National Federation). The Voting Delegate is entered as number 1, the Non-Voting Delegates is entered as numbers 2. Only the Voting Delegate may vote and speak on behalf of and act as representatives of a National Federation at the Congress.
- 7.4. The following persons have the right to take part in the Congress without any voting rights:
- (a) Directors;
  - (b) Secretary General;
  - (c) Honorary Officials or any person having been granted an AFBC Distinguished Service Award;
  - (d) Chairpersons of the standing committees listed in article 35.1 of the Constitution;
  - (e) Any other person invited by the Board or by the AFBC Head Office.

## **8. Registration to the Congress**

8.1. When registering to the Congress, each National Federation shall be obliged to supply AFBC with all necessary information in order to: (a) allow AFBC to determine whether a National Federation is deemed to be an Eligible National Federation in accordance with

article 15.2 of the Constitution; (b) show to AFBC that its delegate(s) have been validly appointed in accordance with article 15.4 of the Constitution.

8.2. The registrations to the Congress shall be opened for a period of at least 1 month for Ordinary Congress meetings, and at least 15 days for Extraordinary Congress meetings.

8.3.8.3 The AFBC Head Office shall inform the National Federations in due time about the opening and closing dates of the registrations.

8.4. The AFBC Head Office shall make determinations regarding the eligibility of Delegates at a Congress meeting when no Elections take place. If Elections are organized at a Congress, then the Ethics Committee shall have exclusive power to make determinations regarding the eligibility of Delegates. The relevant Eligible National Federation shall be entitled to replace ineligible delegates 24 hours before the first day of the Congress at the latest.

## **9. Chairperson**

9.1. The President shall preside over meetings of the Congress, subject to the provisions of article 20 of the Constitution.

9.2. The Chairperson may delegate to the Secretary General, anyone working at the AFBC Head Office or any speaker at the Congress the authority to chair the Congress at any given time.

9.3.9.3 The Chairperson shall ensure that the Congress is conducted in compliance with the Constitution and these Regulations on Congress and Elections. He or she shall open, conduct and close all the debates. He or she shall grant Delegates permission to speak and allot the time within which they may do so.

9.4. The Chairperson may propose to prolong the debates; the debates shall only be prolonged if such a proposal is accepted by a majority of the votes.

## **10. Interpreters**

The AFBC Head Office shall appoint qualified interpreters to provide simultaneous translation from/to any official Congress language as specified in article 6.1 of the Constitution.

## **11. Debates**

11.1. Debates on each item on the agenda shall be preceded by a short report. Following each report, the Chairperson then opens the debate.

- 11.2. Permission to speak is granted in the order in which it is requested. A speaker may not begin speaking until he or she has obtained permission to do so.
- 11.3. A Delegate may only speak a maximum of twice on the same subject. If the Chairperson deems it necessary, he or she may authorize the Delegate to speak more than twice.

## **12. Procedure of voting on a decision**

- 12.1. Voting shall be held on each agenda item (involving any voting) individually.
- 12.2. Voting shall be carried out either by a reliable electronic voting system, by raising hands or by secret ballot. Voting by raising hands can include raising color panels (green means “yes”, red means “no” and white means “abstained”). The manner in which the voting will be carried out shall be decided by the Chairperson prior to the vote.
- 12.3. The Chairperson shall conduct and manage the voting procedure. When the Congress takes place with the physical presence of delegates, the Chairperson shall appoint scrutineers.
- 12.4. Before each vote, the Chairperson shall read the text of the proposal aloud and explain the voting procedure to the Congress.
- 12.5. No one is permitted to address the Congress during the votes and until after the final results have been announced.
- 12.6. The Chairperson or anyone appointed by the Chairperson shall announce the results.

## **13. Minutes of the Congress meeting**

- 13.1. The Secretary General or a secretary appointed by the Chairperson shall take the minutes of the Congress.
- 13.2. The minutes of the Congress shall contain:
  - (1) Place and date of the meeting;
  - (2) Indication to the type of the Congress meeting (Ordinary or Extra-Ordinary, Election or Non-Election);
  - (3) Form of the Congress meeting (in person, or by means of telecommunications);
  - (4) Quorum;
  - (5) Agenda;
  - (6) Consideration of each agenda item (including short description of the debates, taken decision, result of voting);



(7) Other significant issues.

13.3. The President and the person who took the minutes of the Congress shall sign the minutes.

13.4. The subsequent Congress meeting shall determine whether or not to approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Congress.

## **SECTION B – BOARD ELECTIONS**

### **14. The Ethics Committee**

14.1. The Ethics Committee shall exercise all tasks provided for in the Constitution and in these Regulations on Congress and Elections.

14.2. In addition, the Ethics Committee shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) Make determinations regarding the eligibility of Voting Delegates when an Election Congress meeting takes place;
- (2) Ensure that the Election process takes place in accordance with the Constitution and the Regulations, and certify the voting results for all positions;
- (3) Provide information and clarification on the Election process and dealing with unforeseen circumstances;
- (4) Decide on any issue that arises regarding the Elections and ensure the integrity of the Election process;
- (5) Ensure compliance with the Campaign Rules and these Regulations on Congress and Elections in accordance with Article 19.
- (6) Whenever the Ethics Committee suspects that a breach of these Regulations on Congress and Elections may also be a breach of the Code of Ethics and/or of the Disciplinary Code, to refer the case to the competent body for the final decision.

14.3. The Ethics Committee may delegate the fulfilment of the above responsibilities or duties

(1)-(4) to one or several of its members, or to a third party.

14.4. The AFBC Head Office, and all AFBC Officials, shall be bound to comply to the fullest extent with any instructions or requests by the Ethics Committee, notably by providing all information required for such committee to conduct its tasks.

### **15. Call for Candidates**

15.1. When Elections are taking place, either on the occasion of an Election Congress Meeting, or when vacant Board positions have to be filled-in, a transparent call for

candidates shall be issued before the Congress. It shall be published on the AFBC website and sent to the National Federations in due time.

15.2. The call for Candidates shall at least include the following information:

- (a) Information about the position(s) available for Election;
- (b) Deadline to submit nomination for Directors;
- (c) Detailed procedure to apply to be a Candidate;
- (d) Reference to the applicable Regulations or other relevant documentation.

## **16. Application to be a Candidate**

16.1 All Candidates must use the official application form which shall be proposed by the AFBC Head Office.

16.2 The applications forms and exhibits need to be delivered to the AFBC Head Office within the deadline fixed by the Board. The mandatory use of an online form may be requested by the AFBC Head Office. In case of use of an electronic form, or electronic filing, the AFBC Head Office shall ensure that the technology used allows to record the exact time and date of filing of an application.

16.3 The application form shall specify the exhibits to be attached to the form, but such exhibits shall in any case include:

- (a) A nomination form signed by the National Federation of the country of which the Candidate is a citizen (unless such form is inserted in the application form);
- (b) A Conflict of interest declaration form consistent with the Conflict of Interest Policy (unless such form is inserted in the application form);
- (c) A copy of the Candidate's passport(s);
- (d) A proof of place of residence / official domicile / or alternatively a proof of tax residence;
- (e) A copy of the official register of criminal records or any similar official document issued by the competent authority of all Candidate's places of domicile for the last five years before the date of the filing of the application form;
- (f) A copy of the official register of debt collection or of debtors or of any other official register showing that the Candidate is not insolvent or bankrupt;
- (g) A detailed curriculum vitae or biography drafted, with supporting documentation;

- (h) Any further supporting document or material deemed useful by the Candidate to show that he / she fulfills the eligibility criteria listed in article 25 of the Constitution.
- 16.1. If a Candidate is unable to produce a document listed in article 16.3(d), (e) and/or (f) for reasonable reasons, such as inexistence of registry, or material impossibility to get excerpt of the registry in a reasonable deadline due to administration failures in a given country, the concerned Candidate may file a self-declaration that he or she fulfils the requirement, together with a detailed explanation about why the required document is not available and any other evidence fit to have the same purpose as the missing document. This declaration must be countersigned by the National Federation of the Candidate, confirming the accuracy of the Candidate's statements in this respect.
- 16.2. Subject to any provision to the contrary, documents shall be filed in English. Any document drafted in another language must be accompanied by a certified true translation into English language.
- 16.3. The National Federations are encouraged to promote candidatures from female Candidates.
- 16.4. A person may be a Candidate to several offices on the occasion of one Election. A separate application form with a full dossier needs to be filed for each position. However, if the concerned person is elected on the occasion of the Elections that take place first, he or she shall choose whether he or she accepts to be Elected. If he or she accepts his or her Election, then the Candidate is withdrawn from the other Elections. If he or she refuses, he or she shall remain a Candidate for further Elections.
- 16.5. 16.8 Application forms and exhibits must be received by the AFBC Head Office within the deadline fixed by the Board. Application forms or exhibits received after the expiry of the deadline will not be taken into consideration and the Candidate will not be eligible. In case of a dispute, the Candidate has the burden of proof to demonstrate (on a balance of probability) that the application and nomination forms have been received by the AFBC Head Office in due time.

## **17. Assessing Candidates' eligibility**

- 17.1. The assessment of eligibility of each Candidate to the Board (besides Candidates to the position of the President, whose eligibility shall be assessed by the BIIU Nomination Unit) shall be conducted by the Ethics Committee, with the support of the AFBC Head Office in accordance with the Constitution, and as further described below.
- 17.2. If at any time in the course of the Election process, the Ethics Committee determines that a Candidate seems not to fulfil an eligibility criterion, it shall first grant the concerned Candidate a short deadline to provide explanations in writing. Upon receipt of such explanations, or in the absence of any reply within the set deadline, the Ethics Committee shall provide its final determination with a very short reasoning to the AFBC Head Office and the Candidate concerned without undue delay. A decision of ineligibility shall not be made public by AFBC.

- 17.3. Any decision that a Candidate does not satisfy the eligibility criteria may be appealed to the CAS by the concerned Candidate only. The appeal shall be lodged within 5 (five) days of issuance of the decision and shall be decided by a sole arbitrator to be appointed jointly by AFBC and the candidate or the CAS. The procedure before CAS shall be expedited for an award (without grounds) to be issued at the latest 10 (ten) days after the filing date of the appeal.
- 17.4. Upon receipt of an application by a Candidate, the AFBC Head Office shall conduct a first preliminary review of the application file to assess whether it is complete.
- 17.5. In case of an incomplete file received before expiry of the deadline for nominations, the AFBC Head Office shall inform the Candidate, granting him or her the opportunity to complete his or her application within the deadline for nominations.
- 17.6. If after the expiry of the deadline for nominations, the AFBC Head Office notices that, for a given Candidate, the application form has been filed in due time, together with a valid nomination form, but that one or several other mandatory exhibits are missing, it may grant the Candidate a grace deadline of three (3) business days to file the missing exhibits.
- 17.7. The AFBC Head Office shall forward the dossiers of each Candidate to the Ethics Committee, specifying for each whether it has been received in due time and is complete.
- 17.8. The Ethics Committee shall conduct the assessment of each Candidate's eligibility, notably to assess:
- (a) If the nomination and application forms have been received within the deadline fixed by the Board;
  - (b) If each Candidate has been duly nominated as per article 25.1 of the Constitution;
  - (c) If the application by each Candidate is complete and includes all mandatory exhibits as per these Regulations on Congress and Elections;
  - (d) If each Candidate meet all requirements set by article 25.2, 25.4 and 25.5 of the Constitution; and
  - (e) If the Candidate has not reached the maximum number of terms of office as per article 29 of the Constitution. The Ethics Committee shall issue the necessary decision in case of a partial term of office.
- 17.9. The Ethics Committee shall issue decisions only with respect to ineligible Candidates, as further described in article 17.2 above.

## **18. Procedure for voting in elections before the Congress**

- 18.1. Elections shall be carried out by election systems as set out in article 26 of the Constitution.

- 18.2. In case of elections taking place on the occasion of a Congress meeting by audio-visual link, the voting process during elections has to be controlled by an independent notary, proposed by the AFBC Head Office and accepted by the Ethics Committee. There is no need to appoint scrutineers.
- 18.3. The Ethics Committee shall be in charge of giving any recommendation and instruction to ensure the integrity of the Elections, implying notably that the appropriate measures are in place to ensure that the vote of the Delegates is and remain confidential.
- 18.4. The number of ballot papers that have been distributed shall be announced by the Chairperson before the count. If the number of ballot papers returned is equal to or fewer than the number of ballot papers distributed, the election shall be declared valid. If the number returned exceeds that of the ballot papers distributed, the vote shall be declared null and void and another vote shall be taken immediately.
- 18.5. No one is permitted to address the Congress during the votes and until after the final results have been announced.
- 18.6. When ballot paper is applied, each Delegate shall vote in voting booth, and ballot paper shall be put in a transparent ballot box.
- 18.7. The Chairperson shall announce the result of each ballot.
- 18.8. The Chairperson shall put the ballot papers that have been collected and counted into envelopes intended for this purpose and seal them immediately. The Ethics Committee shall keep these envelopes and destroy them 100 days after the end of the Congress, unless the result of the elections has been challenged before the CAS (where the envelope must not be destroyed before a final CAS award has been issued).

## **19. Campaign rules**

- 19.1. The following campaign rules (the “Campaign Rules”) are mandatory:
  - (1) Candidates shall abide by the Constitution, by the Regulations and by the Code of Ethics;
  - (2) Candidates shall refrain from carrying out any electoral campaigning outside the Electoral period;
  - (3) Candidates shall conduct their campaigns with honesty, dignity, moderation and respect for their opponents, limiting expenditure to a proportionate level;
  - (4) Candidates shall not directly or indirectly solicit, accept or offer any form of remuneration or commission, or any concealed benefit or service of any nature, connected with any IBA/ AFBC activity or election or appointment to office;

- (5) Candidates shall in no case and under no pretext give presents or offer donations or gifts or grant advantages or benefits of whatever nature to or at the request of any party who will vote at, or who may otherwise influence, an election;
  - (6) Candidates shall not enter into any promise or undertaking to personally act (whether as a Candidate or following election), for the direct or indirect benefit of the Officials, IBA/ AFBC governing bodies and commissions, National Federation or individuals within the IBA/ AFBC;
  - (7) When a Candidate promises to attract any funds (including from sponsors, investors etc.) or to obtain any advantage from an IBA/ AFBC creditor or business partner, he or she shall disclose the source of such funds, as well as the terms and conditions of any arrangements with a source of funds and/or any information about any arrangements possibly entered into with an IBA/ AFBC creditor or business partner;
  - (8) Candidates shall not accept paid travel, expenses, air tickets or accommodation from other Candidates, their representatives, members or other associated organizations to attend meetings and activities directly related to a Candidate's elections;
  - (9) Candidates shall not enter into any form of undertaking with any individual or organization that is likely to affect the Candidate's freedom of decision or action if elected;
  - (10) Candidates may make declarations or give interviews provided, in doing so, that they comply with the rules;
  - (11) Candidates shall not produce (or cause third parties to produce) any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image or reputation of another Candidate;
  - (12) Candidates shall not engage in any act, collaboration or collusion by or between Candidates with the intent to defraud or manipulate the result of the vote;
  - (13) Candidates shall not request support or service from the IBA/ AFBC or from external advisors who are working with the IBA/ AFBC in connection with their Candidacies;
  - (14) IBA/ AFBC resources shall not be used to fund travel and campaign activities by Candidates who currently occupy elected or appointed positions;
  - (15) The AFBC Head Office shall maintain neutrality at all times. The members of AFBC Head Office should limit their relations with the Candidates strictly to the content of their role as members of AFBC Head Office.
- 19.2. The Candidates are liable – and may be subject to sanctions – if the Campaign Rules are breached as a result of the conduct of an advisor, service provider or member of the entourage of the Candidate, or of an official of the National Federation of the

Candidate, or of any person exercising a function in the context of the campaign of the Candidate, even if the Candidate can prove his absence of personal fault or negligence.

## **20. Consequences of a breach of these Regulations on Congress and Elections**

- 20.1. The Ethics Committee shall decide on each case whether a breach of these Regulations on Congress and Elections (including a breach of the Campaign Rules or a failure to provide accurate information) has been committed or not. It may start a procedure either ex officio or based on a complaint of an Official, the AFBC Head Office, the IBA Head Office, a Candidate or a National Federation.
- 20.2. Before issuing any decision, the Ethics Committee shall provide notice to the Candidate of opening proceedings against him/her, grant the right to be acquainted with the charges against him/ her and to exercise the right to be heard.
- 20.3. Where the Ethics Committee has determined that there has been a breach of these Regulations on Congress and Election, it may:
- (a) Warn the Candidate;
  - (b) Declare a Candidate ineligible;
  - (c) Take any other measures it deems appropriate in the circumstances to safeguard the integrity of the Electoral process.
- The Ethics Committee may decide to publish its decision.
- 20.4. Such decision may be appealed before the CAS by the concerned Candidate. Only the Candidate (and not his/her National Federation) has standing to appeal. The appeal shall be lodged within 5 (five) days of issuance of the decision and shall be decided by a sole arbitrator to be appointed jointly by AFBC and the candidate or the CAS. The procedure before CAS shall be expedited for an award (without grounds) to be issued at the latest 10 (ten) days after the filing date of the appeal.
- 20.5. When the Ethics Committee suspects that a breach of these Regulations on Congress and Elections may also be a breach of the Code of Ethics and/or of the Disciplinary Code, it may refer the case to the Disciplinary Committee.

## **SECTION C – MISCELLANEOUS**

### **21. Elections at Confederations and National Federations**

- 21.1. This article 21 of these Regulations on Congress and Elections is incorporated by AFBC into these Regulations in accordance with article 27 of the IBA Regulations on Congress and Elections.

- 21.2. IBA shall be entitled to send an observer to attend at any elections congress meeting and/or to undertake any other step to ensure that Elections comply with the Regulations and the IBA Constitution.
- 21.3. IBA reserves the right to investigate any AFBC Election.
- 21.4. IBA reserves the right to refuse to recognise the results of any AFBC Election if IBA concludes that such election was conducted with a serious breach of:
- (a) applicable provisions in the IBA Constitution and the IBA Regulations, including the Membership Policy;
  - (b) the AFBC Constitution and the AFBC Regulations and generally recognized democratic and good governance principles;
  - (c) any relevant national legislation and regulations.
- 21.5. Any decision on refusal to recognize the results of the AFBC Elections will be taken by the IBA Board. Before issuing such decision, IBA shall provide notice to AFBC of the opening of a proceeding against it, grant the right to be acquainted with the charges against it and to exercise its right to be heard.
- 21.6. If IBA decides not to recognize AFBC Elections, it shall grant a time limit to regularize the situation. If the situation is not regularized within such time limit, AFBC shall be deemed to have committed a serious breach of the IBA Constitution and Regulations and it may be suspended in accordance with the IBA Constitution or subject to further sanctions or enforcement measures provide for in the IBA Constitution and the Regulations.

## **22. Adoption and Enforcement**

- 22.1. These Regulations on Congress and Elections have been adopted by the AFBC Board on August 9, 2022 and came into force on the same day.
- 22.2. These Regulations on Congress and Elections shall be applicable to any Congress and Elections conducted after its entry into force.