

# **Voluntary Organization of Structural Engineers World Congress (SEWC)-Worldwide**

## **Statutes (Final Draft at 20250415)**

### **Article 1: Name and Acronym**

The name of this organization is Structural Engineers World Congress - Worldwide, hereinafter called as “the Organization”, and the acronym is SEWC Worldwide.

### **Article 2: Objectives and Aims**

The objective of the Organization, that is dedicated to the Art, Science and Practice of Structural Engineering, is organizing the following meeting activities in different parts of the world.

**Main congress:** Structural Engineering World Congress (hereinafter called as “SEWC Congress”)

**Supplementary meetings:** SEWC International Symposium / Conference

The Organization, through these activities, aims to promote the knowledge of the structures, exchange of ideas and information and improve international cooperation among the participants from all the disciplines involved in structure design, construction, management and research.

The SEWC Congresses / International Symposiums / Conferences, hereinafter totally called “the SEWC Meetings”, focus on all aspects of structural design, construction, management and research including technical and professional practice issues for both the technical and the theoretical aspects, including materials, actions, design, construction, research and tests. There may be technical exhibitions, workshops and seminars along with the congress.

General themes addressed in the SEWC Meetings are:

1. Structural design and construction with conventional and new materials,
2. Analysis, design and construction of structures from different periods,
3. Numerical simulation and experimental test of materials, structural elements and structures,
4. Extending life for new and existing structures,
5. Mitigation of natural and man-made hazards,
6. Global warming prevention,
7. Professional practice of architectural and structural design, construction and management,
8. Structural design education,
9. Standards and methods for structure’s global development and maintenance,
10. Risk management, total quality management, quality assurance/quality control of design and construction,
11. Community service - outreach to developing nations.

### **Article 3: Establishment**

The 1st SEWC Congress, 1998 was held in the USA under the management of SEWC Inc. (USA), which was an independent organization with its own Board of directors, founded with the funds of ACI, IASS, JSCA, NCSEA, SEI and SEAOC, and was the chartered and incorporated in the USA in 1994.

After the 2nd SEWC Congress, 2002 held in Japan and until the latest Congress, each SEWC Congress was held in different parts of the world under each independent and executive organization with their own fund management. However, at the same time, the President and Board of SEWC, which was a voluntary organization and had succeeded to SEWC Inc. (USA), have been coordinating and co-operating with each SEWC Congress.

Here, the establishment and the statutes of the Organization shall be clarified.

### **Article 4: Structure**

The structure of the Organization is as follows.

1. Steering Unit (Headquarter)
2. Steering Board
3. Committee (as required and approved)
4. Countries or Regional Groups (Sub-organizations)

## **Article 5: Constituents**

The constituents of each structure of the Organization are as follows.

1. Steering Unit (Headquarter): President, Vice-presidents and Secretariats
2. Steering Board: Board Members, President and Vice-presidents
3. Committee: Committee Members, Chair
4. Countries or Regional Groups (Sub-organizations): Each one representing association or person for one Sub-organization shall be registered in the Organization's database as a key of international cooperation windows.

## **Article 6: Roles of Steering Unit (Headquarter), Steering Board and Committee**

The roles of the Steering Unit (Headquarter), Steering Board and Committee are as follows.

### **Steering Unit (Headquarter)**

The President of the Organization:

- a. Represent the Organization in general matters of SEWC,
- b. Convene and propose the agenda for the Steering Board meetings,
- c. Preside at the Steering Board meetings.

The Vice-Presidents shall:

- a. assist and take the place of the President in his/her absence,
- b. assist the president in representing the Organization and furthering its activities throughout the World.

The Secretariat the headquarters shall perform general administrative works as follows.

- a. Exchanging information on the Organization as a contact point of the Organization throughout the world and internally,
- b. Updating the lists of Constituents of the Organization.

### **Steering Board**

The Steering Board shall be the final decision-making body of the Organization and shall confirm the management of the Organization by the Steering Unit.

The maximum number of Steering Board members shall not exceed 30.

### **Committee**

The Committee would be established and activated, when one or more Board Members require and being approved by the Steering Board. The proposing Board Member shall submit the document which states Purpose, Duration, Action Plan, Deliverables (if any) and the proposed Chair, etc. of the proposed Committee to the Steering Board for approval.

## **Article 7: Member Application and Election of Officers**

To become a Steering Board Member, the candidate has to apply writing a letter of intention with his/her CV to the President of the Organization.

The Steering Board shall elect the President of the Organization by vote. The tenure of the President is four years in one period.

The president appoints the Vice President(s) and the Secretariat. The duty of the President, the Vice President(s) and the Secretariats shall not exceed three consecutive periods.

The Chair of each committee shall be appointed by the President.

The rules of becoming a member of a committee are determined by the Chair of the committee and the President.

## **Article 8: Administration**

The headquarter of the Organization shall be located in the country of which the President of the Organization is a resident. The activity is carried out by Volunteerism in the country. The Headquarter shall set up a website of the Organization and an email address of the Secretariat and so on.

## **Article 9: Countries or Regional Groups (Sub-organizations)**

The representative of a candidate of a group of Country or Regional associations shall develop a short and

succinct Mission Statement that is compatible with the mission of the Organization. The statement shall be verified by the Steering Unit and once be approved by the Steering Board, the Group of Country or Regional associations could be established.

The registered Groups and the representatives of the Groups are recognized as the key of international cooperation windows and a part of the structure (Sub-organization) of the Organization.

#### **Article 10: SEWC Congress/International Symposium/Conference (Meetings)**

Any organization or institution that wishes to host the SEWC Meetings has to submit a preliminary proposal to the President of the Organization a minimum of two years before the proposed date of the meeting by the representative of a Group. The Steering Board shall discuss and decide on its implementation.

The proposal should contain:

1. proposed theme of the Congress / Symposium / Conference,
2. proposed time and place,
3. background information on the local organizer,
4. an estimate of the anticipated total attendance, and
5. a preliminary estimate of the budget plan and registration fee.

The Organization expects from the Local Conference organizers as follows:

1. To manage each SEWC Meeting with each independent fund and budget control.
2. To put the Organization's logo on the conference proceedings and announcements.
3. To provide sufficient meeting rooms for the meetings of the Organization.
4. To provide coffee and lunches for the delegates attending the SEWC Meetings.
5. To organize the SEWC Banquet/Dinner in an appropriate restaurant or venue.
6. To ensure that the conference is SEWC Meeting is largely visible at the conference venue, displaying the SEWC logo in conference rooms and in the registration area.
7. To provide video projection and wi-fi in all meeting rooms for all sessions.
8. Waive the Conference registration fees for the President, Vice-President (s), Past-President and awardees.

Organizers are encouraged to have a workshop/seminar with very practical topics to attract industry people and may include student competitions or PhD awards.

The Organization's Secretariats provide the following support for the local organizers of the SEWC Meetings.

1. Send announcements and other information to the Organization members and to non-members registered in the Organization's database.
2. Advertise the SEWC Meetings on the Organization's Website and other social media.

#### **Article 11: Awards**

The Organization may confer various honors and awards to reward excellence. The criteria and procedures for the recognition of the recipients shall be administered by the President and coordinated by the Secretariat.

Current awards are:

- a. Lifetime Honorary Membership: The Organization confers Lifetime Honorary Membership to Individual members with a distinguished record of outstanding achievement on architectural and structural design, construction, management and research, and/or for exceptional service to the Organization. Designees become lifelong exempt from conference registrations.
- b. Roland Sharp Medal: The Organization may award the Roland Sharp Medal to a member or non-member of the Organization in recognition of outstanding and distinguished contributions to architectural and structural design, construction, management and research. Designees become lifelong exempt from conference registrations.

#### **Article 12: Financing**

As a general rule, the activities of the Organization itself shall rely on the voluntary work of its Constituents.

Each SEWC Meeting shall be financially managed by the organization or institution who hosts it, by the funds obtained by them on its own initiative from international and national organizations and/or by funds from any other source provided by way of gift, bequest, or sponsorship towards the achievement of the object of the

SEWC Meeting.

The constituents of each structure of the Organization shall obtain for themselves the funds necessary to ensure their own participation in the activities, especially their presence at meetings.

**Article 13: Language**

In all international activities the working languages of the Organization shall be English

**Article 14: Miscellaneous**

1. The Organization and the Local Conference organizers of the SEWC Meetings shall conform to the administrative and financial requirements of the country in which its Headquarter is located.
2. Proposals for the amendment of the statutes may be made by the Steering Unit or the Steering Board members.
3. Nothing in these Statutes shall be interpreted in any way which is inconsistent with the realization of the objectives of the Organization.
4. The Statutes enter into force with the approval of the Steering Board.

**Article 15: Dissolution**

The Organization shall be dissolved when any of the Board Members propose its dissolution and being approved by the Board.

**Supplementary Provisions**

The website of the Organization is <https://structuralengineersworldcongress.com/>. The email address of the Secretariat is [SEWC\\_Secretary@jsca.or.jp](mailto:SEWC_Secretary@jsca.or.jp).

The above website and email address are valid from September 2022.