

IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law By-Laws of 2013

I. PREAMBLE

These By-laws are adopted pursuant to Part VIII of the Statutes of IUCN and paragraph 80 of the Regulations of IUCN. They replace all prior sets of by-laws.

These By-laws shall guide the Commission's Members and cooperating institutions in furtherance of the mission of IUCN, to provide effective legal foundations for conserving the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable.

II. NAME

The Commission shall be called the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL).

III. DEFINITIONS

In these By-laws, unless the context or the subject matter otherwise requires:

1. "Chair" shall mean the Chair of the Commission.
2. "Commission" shall mean the IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law.
3. "Council" shall mean the IUCN Council.
4. "Deputy Chair" shall mean the Deputy Chair of the Commission appointed as per By-law VII.1(1)(b).
5. "Director General" shall mean the Director General of IUCN.
6. "Environmental Law Centre" shall mean the IUCN Environmental Law Centre located in Bonn, Germany.
7. "IUCN" or "Union" shall mean the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.
8. "Legal Adviser" shall mean the Legal Adviser to IUCN.
9. "Mandate" shall mean the mandate approved for the Commission by the World Congress.
10. "Member" shall mean a Member of the Commission.
11. "Region" shall mean the Region as per the Statutes.
12. "Regulations" shall mean the Regulations of IUCN, as amended from time to time.
13. "Statutes" shall mean the Statutes of IUCN, as amended from time to time.
14. "Steering Committee" shall mean the Steering Committee of the Commission appointed as per By-law VII.2.
15. "Steering Committee Member" shall mean a Steering Committee Member appointed as per By-law VII.1(1)(c).
16. "World Congress" shall mean the IUCN World Conservation Congress as defined in the Statutes.

IV. OBJECTIVES OF COMMISSION

1. The Commission shall evaluate and endeavour to strengthen the legal foundations of the conservation of nature and natural resources through the conceptual development of environmental principles, norms and laws, and by assembling and providing specialized scientific and technical knowledge and assistance in all aspects of environmental law and related fields of law, in accordance with its Mandate and terms of reference as approved by the World Congress.

2. Subject to the foregoing clause, the objectives of the Commission shall be:

- (1) to assist in laying the strongest possible legal foundation for environmental conservation, protection and sustainable development, thereby supporting international, regional and national efforts in this field;
- (2) to identify areas where improved legal and administrative instruments and mechanisms would contribute significantly to the process of environmental conservation and protection;

- (3) to promote the development, compliance and effective enforcement of environmental law at international, regional and national levels by advocating adequate, practical and innovative actions;
- (4) to strengthen the capacity of relevant institutions and stakeholders, especially in developing countries and countries with economies in transition, to enhance and implement environmental law and policy, and improve access to information, facilitate public participation, and ensure access to justice in environmental decision-making;
- (5) to support and strengthen the capacity of the judiciary and other adjudicatory bodies at international and national levels to effectively adjudicate environmental issues and apply and enforce environmental law; and
- (6) to assist and advise all components of the IUCN, including its Commissions and Members, and other governmental and non-governmental institutions on the elaboration and elucidation of international or national legal instruments, as appropriate.

3. In order to give effect to its objectives, the Commission shall undertake necessary and appropriate measures in accordance with the Statutes and Regulations and, in particular, may:

- (1) initiate, promote and support legal research consistent with the objectives of IUCN and the Commission's Mandate;
- (2) collaborate with the IUCN Environmental Law Centre, as agreed in writing, and on the following in particular:
 - a. publishing a joint newsletter on activities and events related to the IUCN Environmental Law Programme;
 - b. maintaining ECOLEX and the Environmental Law Information System (ELIS), and monitoring developments, both of international and national law including treaties, legislation, customary law and jurisprudence;
 - c. proposing and, where appropriate, assisting in drafting legal instruments at national, regional or global levels;
 - d. promoting and assisting in the development of soft law instruments;
 - e. advising on the legal implications and aspects of initiatives taken, and issues addressed, by IUCN components and programmes;
 - f. carrying out environmental law capacity-building programmes; and
 - g. researching and writing books, studies, and other relevant materials for publication.
- (3) collaborate with the IUCN Academy of Environmental Law in all aspects of its work and in particular in teaching, capacity-building, research and publication;
- (4) collaborate with other IUCN components and programmes, in order to maintain integration and interdisciplinary cooperation in carrying out the overall programme of the Union;
- (5) follow the initiatives of other institutions in the field of environmental law, in particular those of international governmental and non-governmental organizations, and provide input from an IUCN perspective, as appropriate; and
- (6) maintain, with a strong basis in each region, an international network of independent volunteer experts in various areas of environmental law, selected for their expertise and willingness to contribute to IUCN's mission and to provide a forum for the exchange of views and information in this field. This network of volunteer experts shall comprise the membership of the Commission.

V. MEMBERSHIP AND COMPOSITION

1. RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

Members of the Commission serve as an international network of independent volunteer experts charged with advancing the mission and objectives of the Commission in their respective countries and regions. In particular, Members have the following responsibilities:

- (1) to monitor national and regional legislation and feed information into the IUCN Environmental Law Centre/UNEP/FAO ECOLEX database;

- (2) to monitor emerging environmental legal issues in members' own countries and coordinate with IUCN regional and country offices as appropriate on recommendations for issues on which an IUCN position should be developed;
- (3) to provide information on legal developments in their countries as may be requested by the Commission;
- (4) to contribute, as far as possible, books, articles and other relevant environmental law and policy materials to the Environmental Law Centre library;
- (5) to provide information about links to electronic databases of importance for environmental law;
- (6) to respond to calls to participate in the implementation of specific national and/or international projects undertaken by the Commission or other components of IUCN;
- (7) to assist the Commission in promoting and strengthening environmental law and policies in their countries;
- (8) to attend meetings of national and regional IUCN committees and regional fora on behalf of the Commission as requested by the Chair;
- (9) to attend environment-related meetings and conferences and deliver presentations as requested by the Chair;
- (10) to provide *pro-bono* assistance in advancing the work of the Commission through, for example: the drafting of *opinio juris*, articles, and publications, or participation in electronic fora on subjects included in the Commission's objectives and Mandate; or responding to requests made by the Environmental Law Centre; and
- (11) to behave in a manner free of any inappropriate or unethical professional conduct that might harm the Commission, and to refrain from any action that would frustrate the Commission's purposes by endangering, contradicting, or weakening the protection of the environment and nature.

2. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Commission is open to professionals engaged in practice of, research into or teaching of environmental law in any part of the world, including judges, parliamentarians, attorneys, law professors, and others. Appointment to the Commission is determined by the Steering Committee in accordance with By-law V.3. In general, however, Commission Members should meet the following standards:

- (1) possession of a degree in law or its equivalent; and
- (2) demonstrated contribution to the field of environmental law, whether through publications, advocacy on important environmental issues, participation in development, implementation, or enforcement of environmental laws and policies, or other relevant means.

The Steering Committee shall endeavour to reflect gender and geographical balance in the Membership of the Commission. The Commission is not limited to particular viewpoints; however, Members should demonstrate commitment to achieving the objectives of the Commission in promoting the development and implementation of ethical and legal concepts that conserve nature and promote ecological sustainability, in accordance with the Commission's Mandate and terms of reference as approved by the World Congress.

3. APPOINTMENT OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

Members of the Commission shall be appointed as follows:

- (1) Candidates for membership may apply to the Commission directly or may be nominated by another Member. Those who apply directly to the Commission must obtain the endorsement of an existing Member.
- (2) Applications or nominations for membership should be sent to the Commission's Executive Officer and to the IUCN Environmental Law Centre on a form provided by the Commission. An application or nomination shall include a copy of the candidate's *curriculum vitae* and may also include copies of any publications or articles written by the candidate.
- (3) The Chair may invite distinguished individuals to be Members of the Commission. In such cases, these individuals will be exempted from submitting the application in clause (2) of this subsection.

- (4) Approximately once per quarter, the Chair or the Chair's nominee will consider applications and nominations received and circulate the list of candidates that meet the basic requirements in By-law V.2 to all Commission Members via email. Members may review this list for 30 days, during which time any person who wishes to support or object to any candidate may do so by submitting their comments directly to the Commission Chair or the Chair's nominee.
- (5) The Steering Committee shall review the membership applications and nominations with due regard to any recommendations and comments made during the 30-day period.
- (6) Within 30 days after the closing of the 30-day period, the Steering Committee will decide the candidacy for membership by electronic vote.
- (7) The Chair may appoint new Members on an interim basis, subject to the approval of the Steering Committee within 90 days.
- (8) The Chair may appoint, for the duration of the Chair's term of office, correspondents, advisors and consultants, from any discipline, to assist in the work of the Commission by means of their special knowledge and skill.
- (9) The Chair may review, in consultation with the Steering Committee, the names of members, correspondents, advisors and consultants who have been inactive or unresponsive, with the object of recommending the termination of their appointments, as provided in By-law V.6.
- (10) The term of appointment of Members shall continue for 90 days after the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress following their appointment, or until reappointments are made, whichever is sooner, in accordance with IUCN Regulations, Part VII, Section 72.

4. EARLY CAREER GROUP

- (1) The Chair, in consultation with the Steering Committee, shall establish an Early Career Group for interested Commission Members. The Steering Committee may waive the requirement in By-law V.2.(2) for Early Career Group Commission Member applicants. The purpose of the Group shall be to foster relationships among early career environmental law professionals and encourage their participation in the activities and mission of the Commission, through, for example:
 - a. developing mentoring relationships with experienced Commission Members;
 - b. providing a forum for new Members to discuss opportunities and challenges in the development and implementation of environmental law; and
 - c. promoting the participation of young or new Members and discussions of intergenerational perspectives at Commission events.
- (2) The Steering Committee may appoint a Commission Member to serve as Chair of the Commission's Early Career Group. The Early Career Group Chair shall coordinate the efforts of the Group. The term of the Chair shall run until 90 days after the ordinary session of the World Conservation Congress subsequent to the appointment. This term shall be renewable at the discretion of the Commission Chair, in consultation with the Steering Committee.

Current Commission Members and membership applicants who have received their law degree or equivalent within the previous five years are encouraged to participate in the Early Career Group. Early Career Group Members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Commission and are entitled to vote thereat. Interested persons should indicate on their application form their desire to join the Early Career Group.

5. REAPPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS

- (1) Within 60 days after the close of an ordinary session of the World Congress, the Chair shall confer with the Steering Committee regarding the reappointment of Members.
- (2) Reappointment of current Commission Members is at the discretion of the Chair. The Chair may propose reappointment of the entire body of Commission Members. In this case, the Chair shall notify all current Commission Members, who shall have 90 days to affirm their willingness to renew membership in the Commission. Those that do not wish to be reappointed may so indicate to the Chair or the Chair's nominee.
- (3) The Chair may re-appoint Members on an interim basis, subject to the approval of the Steering Committee within 90 days.

- (4) If, after making reasonable efforts, the Chair or the Chair's nominee is unable to contact any Members regarding reappointment within 90 days, such Members' term shall be deemed to have expired.
- (5) Members whose term has expired may re-apply for membership following the procedures in these By-laws.

6. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- (1) The Chair, in consultation with the Steering Committee, may decide to terminate the membership of any Commission Member who has not reasonably complied with the responsibilities described in By-law V.1 and the ethical and legal commitments to the conservation of nature. Prior to the Chair's reasoned decision on any termination, the Member will have the opportunity to justify his or her conduct.
- (2) The Chair may, in consultation with the Steering Committee, terminate the membership of those Members who are inactive, unresponsive, or do not have valid contact information on file with the Commission. Prior to taking such action, the Chair or the Chair's nominee shall make reasonable efforts to contact such Members to determine whether they are interested in continuing their membership with the Commission. Such Members may petition the Steering Committee for reinstatement of their membership following the application procedures in By-law V.3.

7. HONORARY MEMBERS

The Chair may, with the support of the Steering Committee, nominate to the Council a small number of highly distinguished persons for appointment to a Roll of Honour and Honorary Membership in the Commission on a permanent basis. Nomination is not limited to lawyers or legal professionals but should be based on extraordinary contribution to the field of environmental law. Honorary Members shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the Commission and are entitled to vote to the same extent as ordinary Members.

VI. THE COMMISSION

1. TRANSACTION OF COMMISSION BUSINESS

- (1) The Commission shall transact its business by Steering Committee meetings, as described in By-law VII.2(2), unless the Chair decides to submit a topic to the entire Commission membership.
- (2) If a Steering Committee Member is unable to attend a meeting of the Steering Committee, he or she may empower another Steering Committee Member by written proxy to speak and vote on his or her behalf. A Steering Committee Member may act as proxy for no more than one absent Steering Committee Member at any given meeting. A Steering Committee Member holding a proxy shall deposit the latter with the Chair of the meeting at which the proxy is to be used.
- (3) All matters submitted to the entire Commission membership may be decided by email ballot. In the case of an email ballot, the following rules apply:
 - (a) An email ballot will take place only upon request of the Chair.
 - (b) Unless otherwise specified, Commission Members shall have 15 days upon receipt of an email ballot to submit a vote by email to the Chair or the Chair's nominee.
 - (c) There shall be three voting options provided on its form: yes, no, abstain.
 - (d) Except as otherwise provided in these By-laws, decisions shall be taken by simple majority of votes cast (excluding abstaining votes).
- (4) If unable to attend a meeting of the entire Commission, a Member may empower another Member by written proxy to speak and vote on his or her behalf. Members may act as proxy for no more than one absent Member at any given meeting. A Member holding a proxy shall deposit the latter with the Chair of the meeting at which the proxy may be used.

VII. GOVERNANCE OF THE COMMISSION

1. OFFICERS OF THE COMMISSION

- (1) The officers of the Commission shall be comprised of the following:

- (a) the Chair, elected by the World Congress, in accordance with the Statutes;
 - (b) the Deputy Chair, nominated by the Chair and approved by the Council in accordance with the Statutes;
 - (c) Steering Committee Members, nominated by the Chair and approved by the Council;
 - (d) other officers elected by the Commission in accordance with the Statutes and Regulations and these By-laws.
- (2) The Chair shall be elected for a term extending from the close of the ordinary session of the World Congress at which he or she is elected until the close of the next succeeding ordinary session of the World Congress. The Chair shall be the head of the Commission and shall have full powers, in accordance with these By-laws, to undertake such functions and responsibilities as may be necessary to meet the objectives of the Commission.
- (3) The Deputy Chair shall act in the place of the Chair whenever the Chair is unable to attend a meeting or whenever the Chair specifically designates the Deputy Chair so to act for any purpose.
- (4) The Chair may appoint an Executive Officer to serve the Commission.

2. STEERING COMMITTEE

- (1) Composition and Functions:
- (a) There shall be a Steering Committee to assist the Chair in conducting the activities of the Commission.
 - (b) The Steering Committee shall consist of the following:
 - (i) the Chair;
 - (ii) the Deputy Chair;
 - (iii) no less than five Commission Members, reflecting consideration of technical qualifications, geographic representation, diversity of points of view, and gender equity, appointed by the Chair under By-law VII.1;
 - (iv) Former Chairs of the Commission, who shall be known as Chairs Emeritus (on a non-voting basis);
 - (v) the Director of the Environmental Law Centre (on a non-voting, *ex officio* basis); and
 - (vi) the Legal Adviser to the IUCN (on a non-voting, *ex officio* basis).
 - (c) The Steering Committee shall make policy, procedures and rules, and determine all programs of the Commission within the bounds of the Mandate and the terms of reference as established by the World Congress.
 - (d) The Steering Committee, in collaboration with the Environmental Law Centre, shall prepare a joint inter-sessional Strategic Plan for the Commission and the Environmental Law Centre. The Strategic Plan shall be distributed by email to all Members of the Commission.
 - (e) The Steering Committee, in collaboration with the Environmental Law Centre, shall prepare a joint annual Work Plan pursuant to the Mandate established by the World Congress and the Joint Strategic Plan. The Work Plan shall be distributed by email to all Members of the Commission.
 - (f) The Steering Committee shall perform such other functions as may be conferred upon it or its individual Members by the Chair.
- (2) Meetings
- (a) The Steering Committee shall meet at least once a year. The Chair may convene a meeting of the Steering Committee whenever deemed necessary.
 - (b) Notice of meetings of the Steering Committee shall be distributed to all the Steering Committee Members at least forty (40) days in advance.
 - (c) A majority of the Steering Committee Members shall constitute a quorum. In the event that a quorum is not present at a duly convened meeting of the Steering Committee, draft decisions may be prepared by those present and distributed to all Steering Committee Members for decision by email ballot on each item. Email ballots in such cases shall follow the same procedures as listed in By-law VI.1(3)(b)-(d).

- (d) Summary minutes of each meeting of the Steering Committee shall be presented by the Chair or the Chair's representative and submitted to Steering Committee Members as soon as possible after the meeting.
- (e) Except where the Statutes and Regulations require otherwise, or as specifically provided in these By-laws, decisions of the Steering Committee shall be made by a simple majority of the votes cast. Each Steering Committee Member, including the Chair, shall be entitled to one vote. In the case of a draw, the Chair or, in the Chair's absence, the chair of the meeting, may cast the deciding vote. For the purpose of determining a majority decision, voting shall mean submitting an affirmative or negative vote. Abstentions shall not count in determining the majority decision.
- (f) The Chair will have the right to veto any decision adopted by the Steering Committee.
- (g) The Director-General, or the Director-General's representative, shall be invited to all Commission Steering Committee meetings, and shall have the right to participate in and speak at all such meetings, without the right to vote.
- (h) Members of the Commission who have previously served as Chair of the Commission shall also have the right to participate in and speak at Commission Steering Committee meetings, without the right to vote.
- (i) The Steering Committee or the Chair may request other Members of the Commission to attend its meetings as observers. Such observers shall not be entitled to vote thereat.
- (j) The Chair may invite additional observers to attend a meeting of the Steering Committee or any part thereof, but such observers shall not be entitled to vote thereat.
- (k) A resolution in writing, distributed to all the Steering Committee Members by airmail, e-mail, or fax, and affirmed by a majority, by return airmail, e-mail or fax, shall be as equally valid and effective as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Steering Committee duly convened and held.

3. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the Chair, the Deputy Chair, and the Director of the Environmental Law Centre on an *ex-officio* basis. It shall also include up to two additional Steering Committee Members, as elected by the Steering Committee. The function of the Executive Committee shall be to implement the policies laid down by the Steering Committee and to act on behalf of the Steering Committee between its meetings. The decisions and acts of the Executive Committee shall be reviewed at the following meeting of the Steering Committee.

4. SPECIALIST GROUPS

The Commission Chair, in consultation with the Steering Committee, shall establish standing or temporary Specialist Groups of expert Members in particular areas of environmental law.

- (1) The Commission Chair shall, in consultation with the Steering Committee, appoint Members to serve as Chair or Co-Chair for each Specialist Group. The term of the Specialist Group Chair or Co-Chairs term shall run until 90 days after the ordinary session of the World Congress subsequent to the appointment. This term shall be renewable at the discretion of the Commission Chair, in consultation with the Steering Committee.
- (2) A Specialist Group Chair shall appoint Commission Members to serve as Members of his or her Specialist Group. A Specialist Group Chair may also appoint persons who are not Commission members, but who are otherwise qualified in the Specialist Group's field of work.
- (3) Specialist Group Chairs shall submit the name and qualifications of all persons appointed as members of a Specialist Group to the Steering Committee.
- (4) The Commission Chair shall work with Specialist Group Chairs to establish written terms of reference for the work of each Specialist Group and shall submit these terms of reference to the Steering Committee for its approval. Specialist Groups shall carry out their work consistent with IUCN policy and these By-laws.

- (5) Specialist Group Chairs and Co-Chairs shall work with the Commission Chair and Deputy Chair to identify Commission Members to serve as members of the particular Specialist Group. Specialist Group Chairs or Co-Chairs may, in consultation with the Commission Chair and Steering Committee, establish criteria or minimum expectations for participation in a particular Group.
- (6) Each Specialist Group shall develop an annual Work Plan and submit it for the approval of the Chair. Each Specialist Group shall also provide regular reports on its work to the Commission Chair and the Steering Committee, and shall maintain a regularly updated list of the Members serving in the Specialist Group.
- (7) Each Specialist Group should endeavour to raise funds to support the work of the Group. In order to ensure coordination of fundraising efforts, the Specialist Group Chairs shall keep the Commission Chair and Executive Committee informed regarding such efforts.
- (8) Where appropriate, the Commission Chair may coordinate with other IUCN Commissions to establish joint Specialist Groups of experts on subjects at the intersection of the Commission's mandate with that of other Commissions. The Chair may appoint a Member to represent the Commission and serve as Co-Chair of such joint Specialist Groups.
- (9) Any Specialist Group may propose to the Steering Committee that an IUCN Member institution, university environmental law centre or equivalent, or any other governmental or non-governmental institution, be appointed to serve as the secretariat for a given Group, to contribute resources, to use a specialist group logo authorized by the Commission Chair, in conjunction with the Commission logo, and other agreed services to implement the work plan for that specialist group. The terms of the appointment of such a secretariat will be agreed in writing by the Commission Chair and the institution concerned.
- (10) The Steering Committee shall review the terms of reference and membership of all Specialist Groups biannually.

5. OTHER COMMITTEES

The Chair may establish other committees with such powers and responsibilities as the Chair and the Steering Committee deem appropriate.

6. NATIONAL AND REGIONAL FOCAL POINTS

In addition to the officers listed in By-law VII.1, the Chair may, in consultation with the Steering Committee, designate national and regional focal points for the Commission. National and regional focal points shall work under the direction of the Chair to liaise with Commission Members and IUCN national and regional committees within their country or region. The term of appointment for national and regional focal points shall run for the duration of the Chair's term in office, unless otherwise decided by the Chair, in consultation with the Steering Committee.

7. FINANCES

- (1) In accordance with the Regulations, the Chair shall be responsible for overseeing the accounting and expenditure of Commission funds.
- (2) The Chair, in consultation with the Executive Committee, shall prepare a budget for the Commission for each calendar year. The budget shall include expenditures from the IUCN Commissions Operation Fund as well as other sources, and shall include line items for expenses related to the substantive programmes, governance, and administration of the Commission.
- (3) The Chair shall submit the budget to the Steering Committee, which shall have authority to revise and approve the budget.
- (4) The Chair shall endeavour to work with Specialist Groups in identifying and carrying out fundraising activities to support the work of the Specialist Groups, as provided in By-law VII.4.
- (5) The Chair and Steering Committee shall collaborate with the Environmental Law Centre in identifying grant and project funding opportunities to support the work of the Commission and the IUCN Programme.

VIII. RELATIONSHIP WITH THE IUCN SECRETARIAT

1. The Chair of the Commission and the Director General shall agree in writing to an allocation of staff support from the Union's Secretariat for the work of the Commission, in accordance with the Programme of the Union, the Commission's Mandate and Joint Strategic Plan and Work Plans. The agreement shall be reviewed and revised within one year of the conclusion of each World Conservation Congress.
2. The Environmental Law Centre shall serve as the Secretariat for the Commission and collaborate with the Commission's Executive Officer in all aspects of the Commission's administration, including membership, fundraising, the development and management of joint projects, research publications, newsletters, and all forms of communication.
3. The Director-General shall designate Secretariat regional focal points for coordinating the work of the Commission in each of the statutory regions of the Union.

IX. GENERAL

1. COOPERATION WITH OTHER BODIES

The Commission may collaborate with and extend full cooperation to other organizations and bodies promoting objectives similar to those of the Commission. This may include, for example, intergovernmental organizations, secretariats of multilateral environmental agreements, academic institutions, and multilateral development and financial institutions. The Chair will have the authority to sign agreements with such organizations and bodies on behalf of the Commission.

2. WCEL AMBASSADORS

The Chair may, with the approval of the Steering Committee, nominate Members or other individuals to serve as an Ambassador of the Commission ("WCEL Ambassador") to liaise with a particular organization or carry out a specific task or mandate.

3. SUBMISSION OF REPORTS

- (1) The Chair shall present a report at each ordinary or extraordinary session of the World Congress. This report shall also be distributed to all Commission Members.
- (2) The Chair shall present a report each year to the Council.

4. NEWSLETTERS

The Commission shall publish a regular joint newsletter with the Environmental Law Centre. In addition, the Commission or its Specialist Groups may publish periodical newsletters regarding their work, affairs and progress.

5. PRIZES, AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

- (1) The Chair may, with the approval of the Steering Committee, establish prizes and awards for achievements in the field of environmental law, and award such prizes and awards to deserving persons approved by the Steering Committee.
- (2) The Chair may, with the approval of the Steering Committee, establish fellowships and scholarships to support capacity building, training, research and study in the field of environmental law.
- (3) The Chair and the Steering Committee will establish procedures for the nominations and juries for prizes, awards, fellowships and scholarships as appropriate.

6. AMENDMENTS

- (1) No changes may be made to these By-laws that are inconsistent with the Statutes and Regulations.
- (2) Subject to the provisions of sub-clause (1) hereof, these By-laws may be amended at any meeting of the Steering Committee by a special resolution proposed by the Chair and passed by at least a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the total voting Steering Committee Members.
- (3) A draft of the proposed amendments shall be distributed to all the Members entitled to be present at meetings of the Steering Committee by email at least forty (40) days in advance.