



By-laws of AKTEA

1. Name

AKTEA: European Network of Women's organisations in fisheries and aquaculture.

AKTEA is the Nereid of Hellenic mythology symbolising the shore. Women in fisheries and aquaculture are mainly practising their activities on the shore. (AKTEA)

2. Objectives of AKTEA .

- 2.1. To promote the visibility of women's role in fisheries and aquaculture
- 2.2. to promote the recognition of women's contribution in these sectors
- 2.3. to promote the participation of women in decision making in fisheries,
- 2.4. to promote exchange of experiences, problems and resolutions among women in European fisheries and aquaculture
- 2.5. to promote a sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture and the preservation of fisheries and coastal communities
- 2.6. to promote the acceptance of women and women's organisation within the fisheries and aquaculture political and institutional frame
- 2.7. to promote the improvement of women's self confidence

3. Membership

3.1. Full membership is open to organisations of fisher wives/spouses (collaborating spouses) and of women directly involved in harvesting and post-harvest fisheries related activities, all working in family based enterprises in fisheries and aquaculture. These organisations should accept the aims and objectives of the Network/Association and contribute meaningfully to the programme of the Network/Association.

3.2. Associated membership is open to individual women working in fisheries and aquaculture and individuals who support the efforts of women in fisheries and aquaculture (scientists, civil servants, educational workers, social workers and others). These individuals should accept the aims and objectives of the Network/Association and contribute meaningfully to the programme of the Network/Association.

Duties, Rights and Codes for Members:

Regular (=full fledged) Members (Women's organisations)

Duties:

- Contribute time and resources,

- Communicate with the Secretariat and send information about their activities and important issues related to women in fisheries,
- Inform and consult their members in their respective countries about activities of the AKTEA Network/Association,
- Respond to the notice of Annual General Body meetings,
- Participate in programmes of the AKTEA Network/Association,
- Where and when appropriate, identify and propose new potential members,
- Where and when appropriate, identify and propose funding resources.

Rights:

- Being kept informed about the AKTEA Network/Association's activities and giving feedback on them,
- Being informed about and invited to the Annual General Body meetings,
- Voting rights at the General Body meetings,
- Being considered to participate in AKTEA's programmes,
- Being elected as member of the Board of the AKTEA Network/Association,

Associate Members (individuals)

Duties:

- Contribute time and resources,
- Communicate with the Secretariat and send information about their activities and important issues related to women in fisheries,
- Respond to the notice of Annual General Body meetings,
- Participate in programmes of the AKTEA Network/Association,
- Where and when appropriate, identify and propose new potential members,
- Where and when appropriate, identify and propose funding resources.

Rights:

- Being kept informed about the AKTEA Network/Association's activities and giving feedback on them,
- Being informed about and invited to the Annual general Body meetings,
- Being considered to participate in AKTEA's programmes,
- Being elected as member of the Board of the AKTEA Network/Association. It must be noticed that the number of associate members elected in the Board should not be more than 1/3 of the Board members.

Becoming membership:

- Can become members of AKTEA organisations or individuals proposed by existing members and accepted by the simple majority of the General Body meeting. In a case, that an organisation or individual wish to become members in the period between GB meetings, the candidate organisation or individual will obtain the associate membership status until the organisation of the next GB meeting. A profile of the proposed member should be available to the members before voting

Loosing membership

- Members, who do not participate in three consecutive General Body meetings, without compelling reason, will automatically loose membership,
- Members. who voluntarily resign from membership,

- Members who are expelled from the Association/Network due to actions inimical to the interests of the Network/Association.

4. General Body Meetings

4.1. There will be an annual General Body meeting to approve the annual activity report , the accounts, and decide on the policy and activity programme for the next year. Furthermore, the General Body meeting should elect its board officers and appoint members for working groups. The General Body meeting should also approve and amend the By-Laws.

4.2. Notice of the annual General Body meeting and Board meeting and working groups shall be at least 45 days.

4.3. Regular/full members shall be presented at the General Body meetings. If absent, members can vote by proxy.

5. Officers

5.1. The annual General Body meeting will elect, by ballot, a Executive Board, consisting of a chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, treasurer and one ordinary member.

5.2. The officers act together as the Executive Board and have the authority to initiate necessary actions to implement policy and programmes as accepted by the General Body meeting.

5.3. The chairperson should be a Full/regular member.

5.4. If the chairperson resigns, the vice chairperson shall serve as president until the next annual General Body meeting

5.5. In principle, the officers will be selected/chosen from different European countries

5.6. The officers will have authority to disburse the funds of the Network/Association to be utilized for the programme implementation.

5.7. The chairperson shall have the authority to call the annual General Body and will chair it.

5.8. The secretary will be responsible for keeping the minutes of annual General Body and board meetings, for drawing up the agenda in consultation with the chairperson and for issuing notice of such meetings and for maintaining records of membership. The secretary shall also present the annual report of activities of the Network/Association to the annual General Body meeting for approval.

5.8. The treasurer shall be responsible for keeping the accounts of the Network/Association and shall present an audited statement of accounts to the annual General Body meeting for approval. The treasurer will collect and maintain records of subscriptions.

5.9. The annual General Body may appoint other officers when necessary for a working group, and define their functions.

5.10. If two Board members resign, then an election for their positions shall be held within two months.

6. Voting

6.1. Voting right is granted only to regular/full members (women's organisations) with one vote per organisation.

6.2. Voting at meetings shall be by ballot and a simple majority of those voting (and represented will be suffice),

6.3. Absent regular members may vote by proxy .

7. Secretariat

The General Body meeting will designate a person who will act as a Secretariat who will be in charge of publishing the AKTEA newsletter, organising the activities of the Network and facilitating exchanges of information among members. The secretariat will assist the Executive Board in preparing the annual General Body meeting and prepare the annual Report of Activities. The secretariat will also prepare funding applications. The secretariat will act after authorisation of the elected officers.

For the moment, the working languages of the network are English and French.