Election regulations for the Executive Board, Accreditation Commission, Appeals Commission and Advisory Board

The following election regulations serve to implement the provisions of the statutes of the "Agency for Quality Assurance and Accreditation of Canonical Study Programmes in Germany e.V. – AKAST" in their currently valid version. The election regulations apply in particular to the election of the Executive Board, the Accreditation Commission, the Appeals Commission and the Advisory Board by the General Assembly.

In case of doubt, the provisions of the Articles of Association and general association law shall take precedence over the following regulations.

§ 1 Elections

The General Assembly shall conduct elections as individual elections or block elections.

In accordance with the Articles of Association (§ 6 (5)), the following elections in particular shall be held at the General Meeting:

a) Election of the Executive Board,
b) Election of the members of the Accreditation Committee,
c) Election of the members of the complaints committee,
d) Election of the members of the Advisory Board.

The number of persons to be elected and further details regarding the composition of the committees and the Executive Board are specified in the Articles of Association.

The seven professorial members and substitute members of the Accreditation Commission must cover the four sub-areas of theology.

Minutes shall be kept of the elections. Personnel discussions that take place behind closed doors and without the candidates being present are confidential and shall not be recorded in the minutes.

§ 2 Voting rights

As a rule, each member (legal or natural person) has one vote. However, according to the statutes, the KThF sends six representatives and the German Bishops' Conference sends two representatives with voting rights to the General Assembly.

In addition to the members, the current members of the AKAST Executive Committee shall also have one vote each by virtue of their office.

If several persons authorised to represent a legal entity with voting rights ("member") are present, they shall inform the chair of the meeting of the person who will exercise the member's voting rights.

The transfer of voting rights for votes and elections is permitted provided that no person has more than three votes. The transfer of voting rights must be made in writing and notified to the chair of the meeting before the relevant election. Transfers of voting rights must be recorded in the minutes.

Neither the presence of the person nor membership is required to exercise passive voting rights.

§ 3 Terms of office

The terms of office of the elected officers are determined by the provisions of the Articles of Association.

Members of the Executive Board, the Accreditation Commission, the Complaints Commission and the Scientific Advisory Board shall remain in office until new members are elected. With the consent of the majority of the General Assembly, the election may be brought forward.

Re-election is permitted.

If a member leaves a body or committee prematurely and the position cannot be filled by a substitute, the Executive Board shall appoint a suitable replacement for the remaining term of office. Persons appointed by the Executive Board do not have to be members of AKAST e.V.

§ 4 Preparation of the election

The Executive Board is responsible for preparing the elections.

The Executive Board shall draw up a list of candidates for upcoming elections, which shall be sent out with the invitation to the General Meeting.

Members may submit additional nominations to the Executive Board no later than one week before the General Meeting.

§ 5 Determination of the election proposals

The Executive Board shall determine the list of nominations, taking into account all nominations submitted.

Persons who are to be elected must declare their intention to stand as candidates and to accept the election to the office before the election.

If the consent of the candidates has not been submitted with the nomination, the executive committee shall obtain their consent.

§ 6 Voting and election procedure

Nominations may only be voted on if the consent of the proposed candidates has been obtained.

Elections may be conducted as open votes if none of the voters present objects. Block voting is permitted in open votes.

Secret ballots shall be held as list elections if necessary. In the event of a transfer of voting rights, the person concerned shall receive two or three ballot papers.

The election procedure may be conducted electronically by decision of the Executive Board, provided that all general election principles (free, equal, secret, universal and direct) can be observed.

§ 7 Election results

The candidates with the most votes shall be elected.

§ 8 Acceptance of election

The first chairperson of the Executive Board shall immediately inform the elected persons of the election results and request them to declare whether they accept the election either verbally at the General Meeting for the record or in writing within one week of receipt. If no declaration is received within this period, the election shall be deemed accepted.