

THE IT STAR ASSOCIATION CHARTER

*Approved by the IT STAR meeting in October 2004 in Prague, the Czech Republic
Amended by the IT STAR meetings in October 2006 in Bratislava, Slovakia, May 2007 in
Genzano di Roma, Italy and October 2007 in Timisoara, Romania*

1. NAME

The regional information technology association named "The IT STAR Association" and hereunder referred to as "The Association" is a non-profit organization.

2. MISSION, AIMS AND SCOPE

The Association shall operate as a professional non-governmental organization dedicated to the dissemination of scientific and technical information and experience.

The Association's mission is to be the leading regional Information and Communication Technology (ICT) organization in Central, Eastern and Southern Europe which promotes, assists and increases the activities of its members, and encourages and promotes regional and international cooperation for the benefit of its constituency, the region and the international ICT community.

The Association shall conduct activities within a broad framework of transversal themes involving ICT in Society including Academia, Industry, and Government.

The Association's basic aims are:

- a. to promote ICT and its applications in Central, Eastern and Southern Europe;
- b. to encourage activities in education, research, development and application of ICT and to disseminate information and results internationally;
- c. to advance regional and international cooperation in the field;

The Association's activities shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a. the organization of specific ICT related projects;
- b. the conduct of studies and consultations;
- c. the organization of international events and publications;
- d. the establishment of relations with other international organizations;

3. SEAT AND LANGUAGE

The Secretariat of AICA, the Italian member of IT STAR, in Milan, Italy shall serve as the Seat of the Association.

For the purposes of administration, communication and finances, the Association may choose other locations to act as a seat of specialized activities.

The Association shall conduct its business in English.

4. MEMBERSHIP

In each country in Central, Eastern and Southern Europe a leading national society representative of the activities in the field of information and communication science and technology may become an Institutional Member. There shall be only one Institutional Member from any country.

All Members shall have equal rights.

5. OPERATION

The main body of the Association shall be the Standing Regional Committee on Information Technology (hereinafter referred to as IT STAR), which will be the supreme authority of the Association on all issues related to membership, strategy and operation.

IT STAR shall establish subordinate bodies as may be necessary.

IT STAR shall conduct its business only if at least half of its Institutional Members are present. Proxies will not be accepted.

On general policy and strategy matters such as membership, governance, general finance and other issues that relate to the overall operation of the Association, decisions shall be taken by IT STAR by a two thirds majority of its Institutional and Individual Members that are present. .

IT STAR shall have a Coordinator who shall be chosen for a period of two years at a regular meeting. The Coordinator together with the Past Coordinator and the Chief Executive Officer will facilitate the work of the Association between meetings.

IT STAR's work will normally proceed on the basis of specific projects. Decisions for the establishment of projects shall be taken by a simple majority of those Members present. "Simple majority" is defined as "a majority of those who vote in favor over those who vote against a motion". Decisions shall be binding only for members who have supported the project and have chosen to participate in its implementation.

The member-participants of an established project shall be involved in its governance. They shall have responsibility for all aspects of the work and shall determine the requirements and working procedures. The project leadership shall regularly report to IT STAR on the progress.

IT STAR shall decide on dates and places of its regular meetings which shall take place, normally twice a year. The members of the individual projects may decide to meet whenever necessary.

Member societies may act in the name and on behalf of IT STAR only on matters on which they have been given a mandate by IT STAR.

IT STAR shall appoint other Officers and Advisors as needs may arise.

6. FINANCES

Each member society of the Association shall cover the cost of its own participation in the Association's activities. Individual projects shall have their own financing schemes as agreed by the participating Members.

The local meeting costs including hotel accommodation for the regular IT STAR meetings shall be borne by the hosting society. Representatives shall be individually responsible for their travel costs.

The work of the Association shall also be financed by surpluses from activities, sponsorship, donations and subsidies.

7. OTHER

Any matter not provided for in this Charter shall be concretely dealt with by IT STAR so that regulations and guidelines with regard to the specific subject area are drawn for future reference.

The Association shall seek consensus as a primary instrument of its decision making and shall at all times pursue amicable decisions in the interest of its membership.

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