

MARS Bylaws, as from 2013

(for the MARS statutes and earlier bylaws please consult <http://www.marsnetwork.org/statutes.php>)

1. These bylaws replace all other previous bylaws.
2. The Executive Board, i.e. the Committee as indicated in article 3 of the Statutes, will be composed of a President, a Past President, a President Elect, and four regular members.
The President Elect will become President one year after election. Elections for the President Elect will have to be held at latest three years after the election of the acting President.
The Past President and President Elect are Vice Presidents.
The Vice Presidents alternately should represent stations/laboratories from countries bordering the Atlantic Ocean, including the Baltic, and those representing stations/laboratories from countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea, including the Black Sea.
One of the four regular members will represent Central and Eastern European marine stations.
The Treasurer of the Society will be elected from the Executive Board members.
3. The members of the Executive Board are elected for a term of 2 years, and can be re-elected at most for one additional term (according the Statutes article 3.3).
4. From 2013 invitations for nominations for membership and positions in the Executive Board will be sent by the President and Executive Secretary to the whole MARS membership. Nominations should be accompanied by a c.v. of half a page to include why they wish to serve on the MARS Executive Board. The new Executive Board members will be selected, if needed, by the acting Executive Board members from the nominees according the rules of the Statutes (art. 3.2).
5. The composition of the Executive Board preferably reflects a balanced regional representation (North versus South, West versus East).
6. The Executive Board can co-opt members for specific purposes. Co-opted members are appointed on the basis of either being a) editor of the MARS Newsletter; or b) Executive Secretary, leading the Executive Office and administration, established at the seat of MARS; or c) co-ordinators of major MARS related scientific projects; or d) responsible for other duties strongly related to MARS.
Co-opted members have, once invited, the same rights and duties as the regular members of the Executive Board. The total membership of the Executive Board, including co-opted members, may not exceed 11 members.
7. Membership fees are established yearly by the Executive Board.
8. The Executive Board will organize a Conference of Directors at which all paying members are invited and which takes place every two years at a place to be decided by the Executive.
9. Only directors, or their delegates, from paying MARS members have voting rights at General and Directors meetings.
10. Voting by the Executive Board can be done through electronic voting by e-mail.
11. MARS fosters the European Marine Biology Symposium (EMBS) series and the World Association of Marine Stations (WAMS). Websites of both organizations will be hosted at the MARS website.