



FOUNDING OF THE 'EUROPEAN NETWORK OF AGRICULTURAL JOURNALISTS'

CHARTER

Presented in Brussels - December 6th, 2011

Approved by the general meeting of ENAJ in Horsens (DK) – June 5, 2012

Modified at de General Assembly meeting in Brussels, December 8th, 2013, and at
the general meeting of ENAJ in Eindhoven (NL) – May 30, 2016

Art. 1 Founding

The 'European Network of Agricultural Journalists' (abbreviated ENAJ) was founded on December 6th 2011 in Brussels by the national associations/guilds of agricultural journalists of the member states of the European Union (abbreviated EU) and of the member states of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA). ENAJ can invite guests and observers to participate at ENAJ activities.

Art. 2 Network

ENAJ is a network, acting as an umbrella organisation, of the national associations of agricultural journalists and national associations of agricultural journalists and communicators of the member states of the European Union (EU). ENAJ can invite guests and observers to participate at ENAJ activities.

Art. 3 Objectives

The objectives of ENAJ are:

- agricultural, horticultural and forestry journalism according to the freedom of the press rules of the International Press Institute.
- to form a network and organize network activities for agricultural, horticultural and forestry journalists in the EU.
- to represent the national associations of agricultural journalists of EU member states, defending the professional interests of the associations and their members and facilitate the job of their members on an EU level;

- to encourage press independence and the deontology (ethics) of agricultural journalists;
- to promote the collection and distribution of information on agriculture and food in conformity of journalistic deontology (ethics);
- to support the set up of national associations in member states and candidate member states of the EU where there is no active and representative national association of agricultural journalists;
- to organize education and training of agricultural journalists, especially for young journalists;
- to organize other activities which are of interest to agricultural, horticultural and forestry journalists in the EU.

Art. 4 Ruling bodies

The ruling bodies of ENAJ are:

- the general assembly;
- the management committee.

Art. 5 General assembly

- 5.1. The general assembly is the highest authority of ENAJ. She can
 - o change the charter following article 8;
 - o elect the management committee for a period of 3 years by secret ballot (Candidates should be put forward by the member associations at least one week before the general assembly);
 - o elect the chairman on the proposal of the management committee for a period of 3 years (the chairman is a primus inter pares);
 - o approve yearly the strategy and program of the next year, presented by the management committee;
 - o approve yearly the budget and the accounts of former year presented by the management committee.
- 5.2 The general assembly recognizes new national member associations of agricultural journalists and national associations of agricultural journalists and communicators of the member states of the European Union (EU)) and of the member states of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA);
- 5.3 The general assembly can propose new initiatives and activities to the management committee;
- 5.4 The general assembly is comprised of 2 delegates from the national associations member of the ENAJ;
- 5.5 The general assembly decides by a majority vote of 50 percent plus one of the valuable votes;
- 5.6 The general assembly can invite observers and guests (See art. 2);
- 5.7 The general assembly will meet at least once a year. The member associations have to be invited 4 weeks before the meeting. The names of the delegates of member associations and observers must be communicated to the secretary general 1 week before the meeting;
- 5.8 The general assembly elects the management committee for a period of three years.

Art. 6 The management committee

- 6.1 It's recommended that the management committee is comprised of an uneven number (5, 7, 9) of members with no more than one per country. Ideally there should be a balanced mix between countries based on size and geography. If the number falls below nine at any time whether through insufficient candidates standing for election or due to the resignation of any member of the management committee, the management committee can co-opt members to achieve the full complement. The co-opted member(s) will be part of the management committee until the next elections. The management committee can invite observers.
- 6.2 The management committee
 - o prepares and presents the program and strategy to the general assembly,
 - o governs the accounts and budget and presents them to the general assembly as foreseen in article 5,
 - o executes the program and activities,
 - o represents the ENAJ in and outside the EU,
 - o is responsible for all competences who are not foreseen as competences of the general assembly.
- 6.3 The management committee can delegate some functions like vice chairman, secretary, treasurer and other if necessary. They act under the responsibility of the management committee.

Art. 7 Finances

- The activities of ENAJ will be financed by subsidies, sponsoring and gifts.

Art 8 Decisions

- The general assembly decides by a majority of 50 percent plus one under the condition that a majority of 50 percent plus one of the votes of the member associations are represented and under the condition that proposals are sent to the delegates 3 weeks in advance by mail or e-mail;
- The management committee or every member association can make a proposal to change the charter. The charter can be changed by a majority of 50 percent plus one of the valuable votes under the condition that a majority of 50 percent plus one of the votes of the member associations are represented and under the condition that proposals are sent to the delegates 1 month in advance by mail or e-mail. If the quorum is not reached, the management committee can immediately organize a new extra ordinary general assembly who can vote without a 50 percent plus one representation of the votes of the member associations.

Art. 9

Dissolution of the ENAJ can be affected by a decision of a special meeting of the general assembly on the condition that a majority of 50 percent plus one of the votes of the member associations are represented and the proposal(s) for dissolution is/are sent to the delegates 3 months in advance by mail or e-mail. The dissolution must be decided by a majority of two-thirds of the votes. If the quorum is not reached, the management committee can immediately organize a new extra ordinary general assembly who can vote without a 50 percent plus one representation of the votes of the member associations. The dissolution must be decided by a majority of two-thirds of the votes. The assets and properties shall be donated to one or more public organisations or associations who defend the interests and the deontology of the press. The general meeting who decides about the dissolution will decide about this donation with 50 percent plus one of the votes as foreseen in article 5.