Constitution of the European Dialysis and Transplant Association
Ratified at the General Assembly of the EDTA Berlin, GDR, July 1971

NAME, PURPOSE, ADDRESS AND LEGAL REPRESENTATION
1. The name of the Association will be the European Dialysis and Transplant Association.
2. The purpose of the Association will be to encourage and to report advances in the field of haemodialysis, peritoneal dialysis, renal transplantation and related subjects.
3. The Association is registered in Amsterdam and is established for a period beginning October 14, 1965 and ending January 1, 1995.
4. The official address of the Association will be the address of the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association.
5. The Association will be represented against a third party or individual, by two members of the Council together.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ASSOCIATION
6. The Association is formed of full members, associate members and honorary members.
   a) Full membership of the Association will be open to qualified scientific workers in the field of interest of the Association working in Europe and adjacent countries (defined as the countries bordering Europe and also the Mediterranean countries.)
   b) Associate membership will be open to qualified workers in the field of the Association who are not eligible for full membership.
   c) Honorary membership may be conferred on individuals whom the Council consider worthy of this privilege on the ground of outstanding contributions to the field of the Association.
7. Candidates for full and associate membership must be proposed by two full or associate members on a form provided for this purpose by the Secretary/Treasurer. This proposal will be sent to the Secretary/
Treasurer for consideration by the Council who may request further information.

8. Full members have a right to participate in the General Assembly with voice and vote. They can be elected as a member of the Council.

9. Associate members have the right to participate in the General Assembly with voice but without vote. Associate members cannot be elected as a member of the Council.

10. Honorary members have the right to participate in the General Assembly with voice and vote. Honorary members cannot be elected as a member of the Council.

11. Every member is entitled:
   a) To receive information about the Congress of the Association and all General Assemblies.
   b) To participate in the Congress.
   c) To receive a copy of the Proceedings.

12. Every member by the fact of becoming a member, accepts the present Constitution and also agrees to defend at all times the interests of the Association.

13. Full members and associate members, will be required to pay an annual subscription. Honorary members are not required to pay an annual subscription.

14. Subject to decision by Council a member may cease to be a member of the Association for the following reasons:
   a) Voluntary resignation which must be communicated in writing to the Council via the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association.
   b) Intentional and repeated violation of the rules of this Constitution and the interests of the Association.
   c) Delay in payment of the annual subscription during two years after this has been requested by the Secretary/Treasurer in writing at least three times. The member can re-apply for membership after payment of the outstanding arrears.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ASSOCIATION

15. The administration of the Association, determined by the Constitution, will be carried out by the:

   General Assembly
   Council
   President of the Association
   Secretary/Treasurer.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

16. The General Assembly is the supreme authority of the Association. The
General Assembly can be ordinary and extraordinary.

17. The Ordinary General Assembly will be held at the time of the Annual Congress. If one year there is not a Congress the Ordinary General Assembly will be postponed until the next Congress.

18. The Extraordinary General Assembly is a General Assembly summoned in special circumstances.

19. Notice of the Ordinary General Assembly will be made by letter sent by the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association to all members and will include the Agenda prepared by the Council and approved by the President. The Agenda must be sent to members at least 30 days before the date of the General Assembly.

20. The General Assembly will be presided over by the President of the Association assisted by the Secretary/Treasurer of the Association and the other members of the Council.

21. Decisions of the General Assembly can be made by acclamation, public vote or secret vote. In this last case the vote will be made in a ballot box and with nominal recognition of every voter. The count of votes will be public and under the direction of at least four members of the Association.

22. The General Assembly elects the ordinary members of the Council. The election will be made by secret vote.

23. The General Assembly can amend the Constitution and dissolve the Association. To carry this out there must be present at least half of the total number of full members. If the number of full members present is less than half, decisions on amendments of the Constitution or dissolution of the Association will be made at the next Ordinary General Assembly, irrespective of the number of full members present. In the case of the dissolution of the Association it will be necessary for a liquidation of funds and the Council must appoint a Committee of three members to dispose of the balance of funds of the Association by giving any remaining money to the International Red Cross.

24. An Extraordinary General Assembly can be summoned whenever the Council considers it necessary. The summons will be made in the same form as for the Ordinary General Assembly. An Extraordinary General Assembly must be summoned in the same way if more than one half of the full members of the Association request it in writing to the President of the Association.

THE COUNCIL

25. The Council is the Executive for the rules of the Constitution and the decisions of the General Assembly.

26. The Council can make any decision that they consider necessary for the
good of the Association with the exceptions of amendments of Constitution and dissolution of the Association.

27. The Council can summon an Extraordinary General Assembly when it considers necessary.

28. The Council will carry out the following actions but is not limited to these actions alone:
   a) Selection of the place of the Annual Congress.
   b) Selections of the papers and demonstrations of the Scientific Programme of the Congress.
   c) Admission of new members.
   d) Fixing the annual membership fee of the Association on the proposal of the Secretary/Treasurer.
   e) Election of ex-officio members of the Council namely, the President of the Association, the President of the Congress, the Secretary/Treasurer, and the Editor of the Proceedings. Such elections require ratification by the General Assembly.

29. The Council will consist of:
   a) Five ex-officio members namely:
      The President of the Association
      The Secretary/Treasurer of the Association
      The President of the Congress
      The President Elect of the Congress
      The Editor of the Proceedings

   and

   b) Eight ordinary members.

PRESIDENT OF THE ASSOCIATION

30. The Association is presided over by the President of the Association. He will be a member ex-officio of the Council.

31. The President of the Association can hold office for a period of up to three consecutive years and will be eligible for re-election annually.

32. The President of the Association will be elected from past or present members of the Council. This election will be by secret vote by the Council.

33. The President of the Association will be responsible for the well being and progress of the Association.

34. The President of the Association will preside over the Council and will be responsible together with the Secretary/Treasurer for the book of Minutes of the Council which they will sign.

35. Between the Council Meetings, the President of the Association may act on behalf of Council with regard to urgent matters.

36. In the case of a tie in a vote by members of the Council the President
of the Association will exercise a casting vote.

THE SECRETARY/TREASURER

37. The Secretary/Treasurer will be elected by the Council. He will be a member ex-officio of the Council. He can hold office for three years and may be re-elected for a further period not exceeding three years.

38. The Secretary/Treasurer will keep an up-to-date directory of the Association. He will deal with correspondence of the Association.

39. The Secretary/Treasurer will prepare the Agenda of the General Assembly as specified in article 19, and also the Agenda of Council Meetings.

40. The Secretary/Treasurer will attend the Council Meetings and General Assemblies and will prepare the Minutes which he will present to the next Council Meeting or Ordinary General Assembly. After the Minutes have been approved they will be signed by the Secretary/Treasurer and the President of the Association. It will be the responsibility of the Secretary/Treasurer to keep a true record of the Minutes in a book.

41. The Secretary/Treasurer will have the responsibility to inform in writing all members of the Association when vacancies for ordinary membership of the Council are pending.

42. The Secretary/Treasurer will keep the funds of the Association. He will collect the annual subscriptions. He will keep the accounts of the Association and will make payments and transactions on behalf of the Association.

43. The Secretary/Treasurer will propose to the Council the annual membership fee.

44. The Secretary/Treasurer must present financial statements and accounts to the Council for approval.

45. The accounts of the Secretary/Treasurer will be controlled by two Auditors. They will sign the cash books and the annual balance together with the President of the Association and the Secretary/Treasurer. These Auditors will be elected annually by the General Assembly from full members of the Association.

46. The approval of the financial accounts by the Council and by the General Assembly relieve the President of the Association, the Secretary/Treasurer and the Auditors of further responsibilities.

EDITOR OF THE PROCEEDINGS

47. The Editor of the Proceedings will be elected by the Council. He will be a member, ex-officio, of the Council. He will hold office for three years and may be re-elected for a period not exceeding three years.

48. The Editor has the right to co-opt one or more sub-editors whose names
will appear on the Proceedings.

49. The Editor of the Proceedings will be responsible to the Council for collecting all scientific documentation of the Congress necessary for the editing of the Proceedings, for the correction of proofs and for the good quality of the Proceedings. He will be responsible for promotion of advertisements.

50. The Secretary/Treasurer will be responsible for all the financial transactions concerned with the publication of the Proceedings.

51. The contract for publication of the Proceedings will be signed by the President of the Association and the Editor of the Proceedings after approval by the Council.

PRESIDENT OF THE CONGRESS

52. The President of the Congress will be elected by the Council from the full members living in the region of the Congress.

53. The place of the Congress will be decided by the Council.

54. The President of the Congress will be an ex-officio member of Council for two years, the first year as President elect of the Congress.

55. The President of the Congress will be responsible for the organisation of the Congress. To assist him he may appoint a Secretary of the Congress.

ORDINARY MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

56. Ordinary members of the Council will be elected by the General Assembly. Candidates for ordinary membership of the Council will be proposed in writing to the Council by two full members of the Association. The list of candidates will be sent together with the Agenda of the General Assembly to all full members of the Association. The election will be made by secrete vote.

57. Ordinary members of the Council can hold office for a period of up to three consecutive years and will be eligible for re-election annually. An ordinary member on the expiration of his period of office will be ineligible for re-election as an ordinary member of Council for a period of three years.

58. No country may have more than two (2) ordinary members in the Council.

CONGRESS

59. The Association will meet, normally annually, with the object of exchanging the results of the scientific work of its members.

60. The place of the Congress will be announced by the Council to the Ordinary General Assembly two years in advance.

61. The Council will also announce the President of the Congress.
PROCEEDINGS

62. The papers and other scientific acts of the Congress will be published after the Congress with the title of Proceedings of the European Dialysis and Transplant Association.