Rules and Guidelines for ITI Regional Councils

International Theatre Institute ITI
World Organization for the Performing Arts

Non-governmental organisation in formal associate relations with UNESCO
I. Nature of a Regional Council

A Regional Council of the ITI (which may also be called a Regional Bureau, Regional Forum or Regional Office) is a coordination point of National Centres within the International Theatre Institute for a given region of the world. Through its existence and work it assists and strengthens the ITI and helps to achieve the ITI goals in the region. A Regional Council of the ITI abides by the core values of the International Theatre Institute — inspiration, inclusiveness, collaboration and transparency.

The following rules* and guidelines* have been designed to facilitate the work of a Regional Council.

II. Rules for ITI Regional Councils

A. Regional Council of the ITI must be elected by the existing Centres of the region (on a simple majority basis) and the decision submitted for approval to the Executive Council, subject to the approval of the General Assembly.

B. The geographic area a Regional Council works in is defined by the Centres, with the final approval of the Executive Council.

C. A Regional Council serves as a coordination point for its region.

D. A Regional Council coordinates its own activities in the region and is responsible for its own administration.

E. It helps existing ITI Centres in their evolution and development.

F. It scouts for new ITI Centres in countries of its region that do not yet have an ITI Centre and puts parties interested in creating a Centre in touch with the General Secretariat. The latter then follows up on the creation of a Centre.
G. It works closely with the General Secretariat.

H. Before an ITI World Congress, a Regional Council must send a report of its activities to the General Secretariat for publication and information to the ITI network.

III. Guidelines for Regional Councils

Structure, financing

1. The leadership may consist of president, coordinator, chairman, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, etc.

2. It is recommended that a Regional Council abide by the rotation principle. It should regularly change its base and leadership.

3. Financing for the hosting of a Regional Council should be the responsibility of the hosting Centre which may cover the travel expenses for the leader as well as administrative costs for coordination. The individual travel expenses for meetings of Council members should be covered by the Centres the members belong to.

4. If a Regional Council has own activities, they should be financed jointly by the members of the Council.

5. According to the Charter of the ITI, a Regional Council may be dissolved if it no longer functions or has activities that are detrimental to the goals and the Charter of the ITI.
Activities
6. A Regional Council of the ITI should:
   • organise meetings of the ITI Centres in its region
   • coordinate joint activities of its region
   • coordinate joint activities of its region and other regions of the ITI.

Communication
7. A swift communication from a Regional Council to the network or parts of the network is of utmost importance. For the purposes mailing lists as well as newsletters and other means of communication can be used.

   The leaders of all Regional Councils are expected to be in good contact with each other and with the Executive Council.

ITI World Congress
8. The office bearers of all Regional Councils should have a joint meeting with the General Secretary, President and Vice-Presidents during ITI World Congresses.

Size of a Regional Council
9. A Regional Council may be small and consist of some countries in a region (example the Nordic Countries, etc.) or may be as large as a continent or part of a continent (Latin America and the Caribbean, etc.) or even larger (Mediterranean Countries).
*Rule*: a principle or regulation governing conduct, action, procedure, arrangement. *Guideline*: a detailed plan or explanation to guide you in setting standards or determining a course of action.

History: These rules are based on the Charter of the ITI. The draft was prepared by the General Secretary and the Strategic Plan Working Group on Centres (Ramendu Majumdar, Ali Mahdi, Zeljka Turcinovic, Tatiana Azman, Giorgos Neophytou and Tobias Biancone) at the meeting held in September 2009 in Zagreb, Croatia and was modified during the 129th Executive Council session, held in Khartoum, Sudan, in October 2009. Approved by the Executive Council in November 2009. Approved by the General Assembly of the ITI World Congress 2011, in Xiamen, China.

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