

# ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION



## YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONALS DENMARK (YWPDK)

### Name and location

§1. The name of the association is Young Water Professionals Denmark, abbreviated YWPDK.

§2. YWPDK is based in the capital region of Denmark.

### Purpose of YWPDK

§3. The overall purpose of YWPDK is to provide a free of charge and non-profit networking platform for young and new water professionals in the Danish water sector.

§4. The specific objectives of YWPDK are to:

- Create and maintain a network for young people studying or working within the water sector.
- Connect universities and other educational institutions with the industry to enhance knowledge sharing among YWPs with different focus areas.
- Contribute to the development of the water sector by improving career opportunities for young water professionals.
- Help develop future leaders of the water sector in Denmark and become a basis for recruitment in the water sector both in Denmark and abroad.
- Help brand the water sector among young professionals during events at educational institutions, social networks and other public events.
- Strengthen the mechanisms and activities for YWP to get engaged in water.
- Influence universities and other educational institutions to develop their focus on water.
- Promote an active network for YWPs in Denmark by creating an arena for open discussion and facilitating the organisation of members into activity groups.
- Help influence and develop tomorrow's water agendas at all levels.

## **Membership**

§5. Membership of YWPDK is free of charge and open to all young water professionals under the age of 35 studying or working within the Danish water sector. Registration through the website [www.ywp.dk](http://www.ywp.dk) is necessary. Membership will be terminated at the end of the year in which a member turns 36 years old.

## **YWPDK Management**

§6. The highest authority of YWPDK is the general assembly.

§7. The overall management and maintenance of YWPDK is led by the Country Chapter Steering Committee (CCSC)

## **YWPDK Country Chapter Steering Committee (CCSC)**

§8. The CCSC consists of five members and one alternate, three of which are Country Chapter Officers as defined in §19 and two are Committee Members. CCSC meetings will be held every month and all CCSC members are expected to participate, except the alternate, who is expected to participate every 3 months as a minimum. The agenda will be sent out no later than one week prior to the CCSC meeting and minutes available to the CCSC no later than one week after the meeting. The two Committee Members will be able to define their own role at the first coming CCSC meeting following their election into the CCSC.

The YWPDK CCSC will as minimum undertake the following activities:

- Organize a General Assembly once a year
- Prepare newsletters about YWPDK activities and developments
- Organize social and professional events regularly
- Participate and represent YWPDK at national and international events
- Keep the website (YWP.DK) and social media platforms updated and active

§9. The §5 member-elected Country Chapter Officers of the YWPDK CCSC comprise:

- Chair
- Treasurer
- Secretary

For the CCSC to be able to constitute, all three roles will as a minimum need to be filled.

## **General Assembly**

§10. A General Assembly will be held once a year. The call for General Assembly will be sent out with all relevant appendices and posted on our website a minimum of 4 weeks prior to the General Assembly. The agenda will as a minimum include the following points:

1. Election of spokesperson
2. Election of referent
3. Presentation of the annual report
4. Presentation of future visions
5. Presentation of the audited annual accounts and adoption of the budget for the coming year
6. Election of Country Chapter Steering Committee (CCSC) members, chair and alternate
7. Election of auditor (and deputy auditor)
8. Consideration of received proposals

§11. The General Assembly is open to all YWPDK members defined in §5 and to participants invited by the CCSC. Only members defined in §5 have the right to vote.

§12. Decisions during the General Assembly are taken by simple majority. If the voting figures are tied, the YWPDK chairman – or in his/her absence the YWPDK treasurer – will have the deciding vote. Voting will take place in writing if any one voting member wishes so. Voting by proxy is not permitted.

§13. The CCSC will be elected by the §5 members during the General Assembly each year. Country Chapter Officers and Committee Members are elected for a two-year period and the alternate for one year. The five CCSC members have alternating election years. Three seats are open for election in even years and two in odd years. CCSC members may be re-elected. Election of Country Chapter Officers will be done separately from the Committee Members and the alternate during the general assembly. Each attending §5 member will have one vote per Country Chapter Officer and one vote in total for Committee Members, including the alternate sat. Voting will be done in writing.

§14. Members defined in §5 will be eligible to run for the CCSC if they are members of IWA and above the age of 18 years. Priority will be given to candidates who have submitted a written request to run for the CCSC membership prior to the General Assembly. It will be possible to run at the General Assembly without pre-submitting a written request only if there are vacant seats after election of the pre-running candidates. The written request for the CCSC membership must be submitted to the current CCSC no later than two weeks before the General Assembly and must specify which seat the member is applying for along with a letter of motivation.

§15. It is only possible to hold one seat in the CCSC. Should a CCSC member leave their term prematurely, the seat will be occupied by the alternate. Should the Chair leave their term prematurely, the CCSC will decide amongst them, which CCSC member will become Chair until the next General Assembly. It is possible for an existing Committee Member to run for a Country Chapter Officer position. A

Committee Member elected as Country Chapter Officer will be elected for a full 2-year term. The newly unoccupied seat with a remaining 1-year term will be filled by the alternate. A new alternate can be elected.

§16. An extraordinary General Assembly can be held upon a written request from the CCSC or at least three YWPDK members' written request to the chairman, including a letter of purpose. Invitation for an extraordinary General Assembly shall be given with at least 4 weeks' notice through the YWPDK website. Purpose and motivated agenda should be included in the invitation. Elections held at an extraordinary General Assembly are temporary and will have to respect the ordinary election cycle. This means that CCSC members elected at an extraordinary General Assembly will not be elected for two years, but will have to re-run at the election term belonging to the CCSC seat they replace.

#### **Finance**

§17. YWPDK does not collect member fees and thus relies entirely on sponsorships and donations. Surplus funds generated from activities and events will be the onus of YWPDK. Funds are exclusive for the use of the YWPDK as needed. YWPDK should not seek to collect assets unless the assets are collected for a determined and specified purpose.

§18. The financial year runs from January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>. Every year the CCSC will draft a budget to present at the General Assembly. The accounts shall be signed by all CCSC members. The elected auditor shall present their remarks to the annual accounts in form of a certificate before it is submitted for consideration at the annual General Assembly.

§19. YWPDK is politically independent from sponsors and sponsorship does not lead to influence in YWPDK's economic priorities or work in any way.

#### **Authority to sign**

§ 20. The three Country Chapter Officers have the right to sign on behalf of YWPDK individually.

#### **Amendments to articles of association**

§ 21. Amendments to articles of association can be done by a two thirds majority votes at an ordinary or extraordinary General Assembly. Suggestions for changes to the articles of association must be submitted before the General Assembly to the CCSC in order to be considered.

#### **Liability**

§ 22. Only the association is liable for the obligations of YWPDK. None of the members of the CCSC or YWPDK can be held personally liable for the obligations of the association.

#### **Dissolution**

§ 23. YWPDK dissolution can only be done in a lawfully convened General Assembly upon a two thirds majority of the attendees. In the event that YWPDK decides to dissolve itself, the potential economic surplus of the organization will be donated entirely to a Danish non-profit organization.