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Principles for the governance of the ISSA European Network

Background

The ISSA European Network (IEN) aims to enhance the opportunities for relevant topical exchanges between member institutions in Europe. Its activities are jointly supported by the IEN Secretariat hosted by a European member institution and the ISSA General Secretariat. A Steering Committee consisting of CEOs from the region provides guidance to the planning and implementation of the IEN activities.

The IEN implements its mandate through the organization of a programme of events responding to the expressed priority topics of European member institutions. This includes a variety of event formats, but generally focusses on small-scale exchange opportunities for senior experts with a preference for interactive and engaging methodologies. The IEN hereby also supports the implementation of the ISSA triennial programme of activities.

Principles for the IEN governance

Composition and nomination process:

The Steering Committee (SC) of the IEN is composed of CEO's from member organizations within Europe. Each of the five sub-regional groupings in Europe (Annex 2) should be represented by at least one person. The chairperson of the host organization for the ISSA Liaison Office for Eurasia shall be a member of the IEN Steering Committee.

The members of the Steering Committee are nominated by the current ISSA Bureau Members on the occasion of the ISSA World Social Security Forum among the European CEOs who have expressed an interest in being on the SC. Nominations are for the three years of the triennium and should take into account such considerations as overall regional balance, social security branch representation as well as member organization size.

The Chairperson of the IEN Steering Committee is selected by and among the members of the Steering Committee.

Tasks:

Steering Committee members will meet usually once per year to provide guidance to the establishment of the IEN triennial activities plan as well as its implementation and evaluation. They are invited to host at least one activity during the triennium and encourage other members to also host activities. The Steering Committee members may propose new types of activities in Europe, and contribute to supporting ongoing exchanges and networking between ISSA member institutions in Europe. They should also support member recruitment and member engagement initiatives within their sub-region or branch.

IEN Secretariat:

The IEN Secretariat is hosted by the SC Chairperson's organization. It supports the Steering Committee in its tasks and implements the IEN triennial activities plan in collaboration with the ISSA General Secretariat. To facilitate the tasks of the IEN Secretariat, each Steering Committee member is to designate one officer from their respective organization as contact person for the IEN Secretariat and to provide support in the organization and implementation of IEN activities in Europe.

Meetings and language:

The Steering Committee meets usually once a year. In order to facilitate participation, the Steering Committee will meet on the occasion of ISSA Bureau meetings, back-to-back with other ISSA events in Europe, or on an *ad hoc* basis for more in-depth discussions as deemed necessary. The ISSA Secretary General and the Regional Coordinator for Europe are invited to attend Steering Committee meetings.

In line with the policy applied in all ISSA regional structures, travel and accommodation to participate in Steering Committee meetings is at the cost of the member organization. The working language of the IEN Steering Committee and the IEN Secretariat is English. The General Secretariat supports communication in additional languages at Steering Committee meetings held in Geneva, for which interpretation services in English, French, Spanish, German and Russian may be provided.