

Terms of Reference

International Broadcasting Assembly and Committee

1. Role and Mission

- 1.1 The International Broadcasting Assembly (the “Assembly”) brings together international broadcasting entities (television and radio) which are responsible for transmissions outside the home country of their parent organization. These international entities – who are either an EBU Member, a daughter or department of EBU Members or an Approved Participant - formerly met under the aegis of “The Bruges Group”, which is now dissolved.
- 1.2 The Assembly has been formed to serve as a platform for all EBU Members that transmit internationally (TV, radio and online):
 - to share, exchange and identify synergies for mutual support, assistance and knowledge;
 - to ensure that together they can act with each other, in the common interest of Public Service Media.
- 1.3 The Assembly discusses major strategic themes, holds structured exchanges of information about experiences and approves the annual priorities, objectives, goals, official positions and action plans for the International Broadcasting sector within the EBU subject to and consistent with the EBU’s global strategy and policy decisions taken by the competent EBU bodies.
- 1.4 The Assembly also provides a platform for the exchange and sharing of information and expertise among Members in the field of International Broadcasting.
- 1.5 The Assembly is the body which contributes to the emergence of a European identity by enabling every citizen to enjoy, through cable, satellite distribution and online transmission, easy access to the most representative programmes produced by the various European Public Service Media.
- 1.6 In accordance with Article 16.3 of the Statutes, the mandate of the Assembly does not extend to the management and co-ordination of the Permanent Services.

2. Composition, Election and Term of Office

- 2.1. The International Broadcasting Committee comprises a Chair and up to 8 members representing the diversity of the EBU Members.
- 2.2. All representatives elected to the Committee must be employees of their respective EBU Member organisations.
- 2.3. The election process is laid down in Article 14.7 of the EBU Statutes and in Part II of the EBU Bye-Laws.
- 2.4. Candidates for the post of Chair must announce in writing to the Secretary their intention to stand in time for their names to be listed in the working document.
- 2.5. Save for exceptional circumstances which have been duly explained to and accepted by the Chair, any candidate who is not present at the session of the Assembly during which voting takes place shall not be entitled to stand in the election.
- 2.6. The term of office for the Chair and the Committee, is two years, taking effect immediately after the Assembly session at which elections are held.
- 2.7. Any member of the Committee who leaves his/her respective organisation during the term of office shall be deemed to have resigned from their post. Such resignation takes effect on the date of their departure from their organisation or on such earlier date as may be agreed.
- 2.8. The Assembly meets once a year and is open to all EBU Members, as well to all EBU Associates and Approved Participants. The Committee holds at least two meetings per year: one to prepare the Assembly, the other in conjunction with the Assembly. Other meetings could be organised throughout the year if necessary.
- 2.9. Other participants/experts may be invited to attend all or part of an Assembly meeting when the Chair deems it necessary.

3. Decision-making Process

- 3.1. The Assembly customarily takes decisions on the basis of a consensus, but in exceptional cases votes may be cast, in accordance with Part III of the EBU Bye-Laws.
- 3.2. Decisions are taken in accordance with the EBU Statutes and Bye-Laws.
- 3.3. An absolute majority (more than half) of the votes cast is required for the proposal to be accepted.
- 3.4. Urgent matters occurring between Assembly meetings are decided upon jointly by the Committee. Authority is delegated to it by the Assembly for that purpose.
- 3.5. The Assembly reports through its Chair to the Executive Board.

4. Confidentiality

- 4.1. Participants of the Assembly shall be under a duty of confidentiality in respect of all information which they acquire as a result of their participation.

5. Secretariat

- 5.1. The secretariat for the International Broadcasting Assembly shall be provided by the EBU Head of Institutional and International Relations.

These Terms of Reference were approved by the General Assembly at its Winter session in Geneva on 3-4 December 2015. The text will be maintained and, when necessary, updated by the EBU Legal and Policy Department. Any proposed changes should be approved by the International Broadcasting Assembly and notified to the EBU Legal and Policy Director, who will consult the Director General. If proposed changes are of a substantive nature, they will be submitted to the International Broadcasting Assembly and thereafter for approval to the Executive Board and to the General Assembly.