GENERAL RULES

of

The International Association of Hydrogeologists

(adopted on the 30th day of November 2000;

amended on the 9th day of September 2001, 25th day of May 2002, 20th day of September 2007, 13th day of September 2015, 7th day of November 2022, 10th day of September 2024; and on 16th day of September 2026).

1. STATUS AND INTERPRETATION

1.1. These Rules have been adopted in accordance with the Articles of Association (the "Articles") of the International Association of Hydrogeologists (the "Association") and may only be altered, added to or repealed (a) by the Trustees of the Association taking account of the advice of the Advisory Council; or (b) by the Association in general meeting.

1.2. Every member of the Association shall be subject to the Rules for the time being in force.

1.3. Save where specifically defined herein or where the context otherwise requires, words and phrases defined in the Articles shall have the same meaning herein and reference to a numbered Article shall be a reference to that provision of the Articles.

1.4. The Trustees shall have the sole authority for the interpretation of these Rules and the resolution of disputes concerning these Rules.

2. MEMBERSHIP

2.1. Subject to Article 10, persons or organisations may be admitted to membership of the Association in the following categories:

(a) members;

(b) life members;

(c) corporate members;

(d) honorary members;

(e) associate members;

(f) student members; and

(g) retired members.

2.2. The Association's Secretariat will approve applications for membership in these

categories on behalf of the Trustees, in accordance with Article 10.1.

2.3. Individual, corporate, student and retired members must pay annually such membership fees as shall be determined from time to time by the Trustees with the advice of the Advisory Council in accordance with these Rules. The Trustees shall similarly determine the benefits accruing to each class of membership, which will be detailed and explained as necessary in appropriate Association publications.

2.4. Members may be persons engaged directly or indirectly in education, research on, study or management of water within the field of hydrogeology or related sciences and other disciplines. Members may opt to be “online” members and receive all their membership benefits by electronic means which may lead to a reduction in the membership fee paid.

2.5. Corporate membership is open to any organisation engaged in education, research on, study or management of water and the environment including consultancy firms, equipment manufacturers, well-drilling companies and other service providers. The annual fees and benefits due for corporate membership shall be determined by the Trustees with the advice of the Advisory Council.

2.6. Corporate sponsorship is open to any organisation that supports the aims and/or the charitable objectives of the Association. The annual fees and benefits due for corporate sponsorship shall be determined by the Trustees with the advice of the Advisory Council.

2.7. Honorary members, proposed by the Trustees, with the advice of the Advisory Council, on grounds of long and exceptional service to the Association, may be elected by the members voting at a general meeting of the Association. Honorary members are not required to pay membership fees.

2.8. Life members are those members who make a single payment twenty times that of an individual member’s annual membership fee, or as otherwise defined by Trustees; thereafter, life members are not required to pay further membership fees.

2.9. Members of the Association who are no longer professionally engaged in hydrogeology may opt for retired membership for which a reduced fee is payable. Retired members receive IAH News, other occasional mailings and discounts on IAH books and, subject to any decision by the Trustees with the advice of the Advisory Council, may receive online copies of Hydrogeology Journal.

2.10. Persons who are members of national associations recognised under Rule 7.10 as being the National Chapter of IAH, but who do not pay the appropriate membership fee for full membership of IAH, are entitled to be recognised as Associate Members of the Association.

2.11. The number of Associate Members recognised by a National Chapter shall be reported each year in the Chapter’s annual report. Associate Members shall be entitled to discounts on registrations at conferences which are offered to full IAH members but not to discounts on publications. They are not entitled to printed or online copies of

Hydrogeology Journal.

2.12. Associate Members under Rule 2.10 may not vote in Association elections and will not be listed in the register of members. Associate Membership is not available on an individual basis but only through a recognised National Chapter.

2.13. No fee is payable to the Association in respect of Associate Membership, except for any agreed service administration charges.

2.14. If recognition of a national association as the National Chapter of IAH is withdrawn under Rule 8.10, then the rights to Associate Membership are also withdrawn.

2.15. Student membership is open to bona fide students undergoing full-time education in an appropriate water-related or other relevant subject at a recognised university or similar educational institution. It is available on receipt of evidence of full-time student status.

2.16. Free (Associate) student membership is available to bona fide students for a single period of up to 3 years. This entitles students to discounts offered by the Association, to newsletters and email alerts, voting in elections, as well as opportunities for participation in the Association's National Chapters, Commissions and Networks. This does not include personal access to print or online versions of Hydrogeology Journal.

2.17. Prospective members must complete an application form and submit it to:

(a) the Treasurer or Secretary of the National Committee for the country of the applicant; or

(b) the Secretariat of the Association.

2.18. Membership of the Association may be terminated if the appropriate annual fees are not paid by the due date as set by the Trustees. All forms of membership may otherwise be terminated in the circumstances set out in the Articles.

2.19. Members must notify promptly any change of their address to the person or officer to whom they normally pay their membership fees so that they can continue to receive their benefits of IAH membership.

2.20. Written notice of intention to resign from membership must, as far as possible, be given before the end of the year for which the member's fee has been paid.

3. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (GENERAL ASSEMBLY)

3.1. In accordance with Article 11.1, an Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held each year. All members have the right to attend the meeting and to take part in discussions.

3.2. Subject to the Articles, the Annual General Meeting shall, as appropriate:

(a) receive and consider reports from officers, chairs of committees, Regional Vice Presidents, Commissions or groups established by the Association in

general meeting, the Trustees, the Advisory Council, and/or from persons to whom special tasks have been entrusted;

(b) approve changes or reject proposed amendments to the Articles or the Rules (if any);

(c) vote on recommendations for membership fees from the Advisory Council, the result of which Trustees shall take into account in finalising the fees; and

(d) conduct any other business, including plans for the future.

4. TRUSTEES

4.1. In order to comply with the requirements of the Association's UK bank, up to 50% of the Trustees shall be UK residents for tax purposes. The Trustees of the Association shall comprise the following:

(a) Members of the Executive Committee; and

(b) Additional members appointed by the Trustees.

4.2. The Trustees are also the company law directors of the Association. The Trustees are responsible for the management of the Association as a registered charity in compliance with its charitable objectives; and are also legally accountable for running the Association to comply with the requirements of Companies House and the relevant UK Companies Acts. Their responsibilities are provided in further detail in Appendix 1 (Trustees).

4.3. Meetings of the Trustees shall be convened by the President. Business of the Trustees may be conducted by face-to-face meetings, online and written communication, or other means as agreed by the Trustees. Where voting is carried out, each Trustee has one vote; decisions are reached by simple majority. In the event of a tie, the President has the casting vote.

4.4. The Trustees may from time to time agree terms of reference for the various positions on the Executive Committee, which will define the roles and the expectation of the services they carry out for the Association.

4.5. As set out in the Articles, the Trustees may from time-to-time delegate powers to the Executive Committee and the Executive Committee shall exercise such delegated powers as are from time-to-time set out in any written instructions given to them.

5. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

5.1. The Executive Committee, constituted in accordance with Article 24, shall operate according to the following rules:

(a) Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be convened by the President. Its business may be conducted by face-to-face meetings, online and written communication, or other means as agreed by the Executive Committee; and

(b) Each appointed member of the Executive Committee has one vote; decisions are reached by simple majority. In the event of a tie, the President has the casting vote.

5.2. The Executive Committee has responsibilities for directing day-to-day operational activities under powers delegated by the Trustees. The Executive Committee shall take account of guidance from the Advisory Council and act in accordance with directions issued by the Trustees.

5.3. The Executive Committee shall:

(a) Coordinate the work of Commissions, Networks and National Chapters who wish to participate in the scientific programme of the Association;

(b) Review and approve reports for presentation to the Trustees and the Advisory Council;

(c) Inspect and approve the accounts, budgets and estimates prepared by the Secretariat in conjunction with the Vice President for Finance and Membership;

(d) Submit to the Trustees and Advisory Council recommendations for the future activities of the Association; and

(e) Conduct any other relevant business entrusted to it by the Trustees or agreed with the Advisory Council.

5.4. Elections for the Executive Committee shall take place every fourth year (or otherwise as required, at the discretion of the Trustees) in a form agreed by the Trustees which may be online, in writing or in person. Guidance on conduct of the elections shall be published, as appropriate.

5.5. Members of the Association may nominate candidates for election to the roles in the Executive Committee; these must have the consent of the person or persons named and be sent to the Secretary-General and the Returning Officer at least six months before the date of the election (or within such other shorter period as the Trustees may, in exceptional circumstances, agree).

5.6. Should a member of the Executive Committee no longer be able to carry out the duties required, the Trustees will determine whether to hold an election in the manner described in Rule 5.4 or to make a direct appointment. In either case, the appointee will hold the post until the next full elections take place in the fourth year as described in Rule 5.4.

5.7. The Executive Committee may from time-to-time, with the advice of the Advisory Council, agree terms of reference for the various positions on the Advisory Council, which will define the roles and the expectation of the services they carry out for the Association.

5.8. The Executive Committee may, with the advice of the Advisory Council, appoint advisors for such purposes as it determines, such as management of publications,

coordination of the Association's activities in a sub-region, provision of specialist expertise in regard to matters such as law, finance, risk, etc.

6. ADVISORY COUNCIL

6.1. The Advisory Council advises the Executive Committee. The role of the Advisory Council is to assist the Trustees in furthering the aims of the Association's mission statement and its charitable objectives by providing guidance and advice in accordance with Rule 6.2. The charitable objectives of the Association are set out in Article 4 as follows: "to advance public education and promote research (and disseminate the useful results of such research) in the study and knowledge of hydrogeological science". The roles of individual members of the Council are set out in Appendix 2 (IAH Advisory Council).

6.2. Guidance and advice shall be provided to the Executive Committee in writing, online and in person, including in meetings convened by the President with the Executive Committee. In meetings of the Advisory Council, where any such meetings take place, each member of the Advisory Council has one vote; decisions are reached by simple majority. In the event of a tie, the President has the casting vote.

6.3. The Advisory Council, constituted in accordance with Article 27, shall comprise the following office holders:

(a) the immediate past President (an unelected *ex officio* member);

(b) the Director of the Association's Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network (an unelected *ex officio* member); and

(c) up to eight Regional Vice-Presidents appointed in accordance with Article 27.2:

(i) Asia

(ii) Australasia and the Pacific

(iii) Eastern Europe and Central Asia

(iv) Latin America and the Caribbean

(v) Middle East and North Africa

(vi) North America

(vii) Sub-Saharan Africa

(viii) Western and Central Europe

6.4. Elections for the Advisory Council shall take place every fourth year (or otherwise as required, at the discretion of the Trustees) in a form agreed by the Trustees, which may be online, in writing or in person. Guidance on conduct of the elections shall be published, as appropriate.

6.5. Members of the Association may nominate candidates for election to the roles in the Advisory Council; these must have the consent of the person or persons named and be

sent to the Secretary-General and the Returning Officer at least six months before the date of the election (or within such other shorter period as the Trustees may, in exceptional circumstances, agree).

6.6. Should a member of the Advisory Council no longer be able to carry out the duties required the Executive Committee will determine whether to hold an election in the manner described in Rule 6.4 or to make a direct appointment. In either case, the appointee will hold the post until the next full elections take place in the fourth year as described in Rule 6.4.

7. SECRETARIAT

7.1. The work of the Advisory Council, the Executive Committee and Trustees is supported by a Secretariat which carries out the central administrative duties of the Association in relation to membership, finance, communications, governance and other tasks as required. The Secretariat is led by the Executive Manager, who performs the role of Secretary of the Association in accordance with Article 28.

8. NATIONAL ADMINISTRATION

8.1. The Association encourages the formation of National Chapters of its individual members to facilitate administration, promote contacts and cooperation, undertake relevant studies of local or regional interest, organise national or regional scientific and technical meetings, training courses or field visits and to support the Association's charitable aims.

8.2. The Association also encourages regional collaboration between neighbouring National Chapters and between individual members within regions.

8.3. National Chapters are voluntary associations of two or more members. When their membership exceeds approximately ten, a National Chapter must elect or appoint, at intervals of not more than five years, a smaller number of representatives to form a National Committee which will conduct affairs on behalf of the whole Chapter. National Committees must appoint at least two officers (chairman and secretary/ treasurer) if finances are to be handled.

8.4. National Chapters and Committees operate within the framework provided by these Rules but may make further rules to suit local conditions. Such local rules must have the approval of the Trustees and shall not contravene the Articles or the Rules. National Chapters and Committees must comply with any relevant national or local laws.

8.5. National Committees must send a brief annual report in respect of their Chapter's activities for the calendar year concerned to the Secretariat by 1 March the following year. Annual reports should include a short financial summary statement reflecting the Chapter's activities in the prescribed format.

8.6. National Committees may recruit new members in accordance with Rule 2. Subject to approval by the Trustees, which may also be rescinded at the discretion of the Trustees, National Committees may also collect fees from their members.

8.7. Each National Committee that has been authorized by the Trustees to collect membership fees must operate an appropriate bank account in the Chapter's name to facilitate fee collection, transfer and reporting. The Committee must also send each year, through their treasurer, all membership fees (subject to Rule 8.8 below) collected for the calendar year concerned, together with a fee statement and list of names and addresses for all members who have paid, to the Association's Secretariat. The Executive Committee may, with reasonable notice to National Committees, make and amend administrative procedures for the transfer of funds.

8.8. National Committees may retain or receive 10% of membership fees to meet expenses and commitments properly incurred in furtherance of the objects of the Association. Committees authorised to collect membership fees must send the remaining 90% to the Secretariat in accordance with Rule 8.7.

8.9. National Chapters and Committees are solely responsible for settling their own debts (including the payment of membership fees to the Association). The Association takes no responsibility whatsoever for financial debts incurred by National Chapters or Committees unless a previous written commitment or guarantee against loss has been made or given by the Association.

8.10. The Trustees may recognise an independent national association as the National Chapter of the Association, provided that the aims and objectives of the national association are compatible with the charitable objectives of the Association. A nominated member of the governing body of the national association, who shall be a member of the Association, shall be the recognised representative of the Association on the governing body and the official correspondent with the Association. The Trustees may rescind their recognition if they consider that the best interests of the Association are not being met.

8.11. In addition to recognising national associations as National Chapters, regional associations with common goals can be recognised as Associated Organisations with which the Association agrees to cooperate. Such cooperation may be formally endorsed through a Memorandum of Understanding.

8.12. From the 2028 IAH Elections onwards, no member elected to the Executive Committee, the office of Regional Vice President, or the office of Representative for Early Career Hydrogeologists may also hold any elected or appointed officer position in an IAH National Chapter. Any member elected or appointed to a Council or Executive Committee position shall resign from any elected or appointed officer position within a National Chapter. Where necessary to ensure continuity, they may continue in that Chapter role until a successor has been elected or appointed. This provision applies only to the 2028 elections and subsequent elections and does not affect existing terms of office.

9. COMMISSIONS, NETWORKS, WORKING GROUPS AND PANELS

9.1. Commissions, Networks and Working Groups (including Panels) undertake a range of activities in pursuance of the charitable objects of the Association:

(a) Commissions are standing bodies established to provide focus in specific topic areas. They are expected to run regular group meetings, organise technical sessions at conferences, host specialist, stand-alone meetings or symposia and maintain a website. They are also expected to disseminate knowledge and research findings in the form of research publications, educational materials and training workshops. Commissions will generally advise the Trustees and the Advisory Council on all scientific and other relevant matters within their sphere of competence.

(b) Networks are standing bodies established to provide focus in specific topic areas but, unlike Commissions, are primarily designed to stimulate interaction between groundwater scientists, and sometimes the broader community, in areas of common interest. Networks are expected to organise technical sessions at conferences, exchange and disseminate knowledge, maintain a website and contribute to the Association's educational objectives. However, while Networks are also encouraged to engage in the full range of activities expected of Commissions, they are not obliged to do so. Networks will generally advise Trustees and the Advisory Council on all scientific and other relevant matters within their sphere of competence; and

(c) Working Groups are project or task-orientated teams with well-defined membership, objectives, programmes and timeframes. They may function in conjunction with Commissions and Networks or independently, if appropriate. The term "Panel" is applied to Working Groups assembled for the sole purpose of soliciting information and/or providing comment or opinion on a particular topic of interest or concern to the Association.

9.2 Establishment and tenure of Commissions, Networks and Working Groups (including Panels):

(a) While ultimate responsibility for the initiation, operation or disbandment of Commissions, Networks and Working Groups rests with the Trustees, the programme of scientific and related activities undertaken by the Association through its Commissions, Networks and Working Groups is the responsibility of the Vice President for Science and Programme Coordination. The Vice President for Science and Programme Coordination oversees the work of Commissions, Networks and Working Groups, assesses new proposals and generally advises the Trustees and the Advisory Council on all matters pertaining to the programmes, work, publications and budgetary implications of the Commissions, Networks and Working Groups;

(b) Commissions and Networks are established by the Trustees following a recommendation by the Vice President for Science and Programme Coordination and taking the advice of the Advisory Council. Commissions and Networks receive an operational licence of either 4 or 6 years which is renewable subject to satisfactory performance;

(c) Proposals for new Commissions and Networks may be made by any member

of the Association, at any time, by applying to the Vice President for Programme and Science Co-ordination. The Vice President for Programme and Science Co-ordination will ensure that the proposal is appropriately reviewed and will advise the Trustees and the Advisory Council on the outcome of the review;

(d) All Commissions, Networks and Working Groups are obliged to report to the Trustees and Advisory Council annually on their activities during the previous calendar year. This report must be delivered each year to the Vice President for Programme and Science and Executive Manager by March 1st of the following year. An account of any Association funds expended during that year must be included, as well as a budget for the following year, together with indications of how these costs are to be met. Working Groups operating within Commissions or Networks may report to the Trustees and Advisory Council via the annual report of their respective Commission or Network;

(e) The performance of a Commission or Network will be assessed through its annual reports and more detailed reviews undertaken during the period of licence. These reviews will be conducted by the Vice President for Programme and Science Co-ordination, with assistance as necessary. The first of the reviews will normally take place close to the mid-term of the licensing period. The second review will be carried out in the final year of the licensing period and will take place only if Commissions or Networks are seeking to renew their operating licence;

(f) Commissions and Networks that no longer adequately serve the needs of the Association will be disbanded. Procedurally, this will occur either naturally following expiry of an operating licence, or as a result of a licence renewal application being rejected by the Trustees. In extraordinary circumstances (e.g. a prolonged lack of communication with the Vice President for Programme and Science or, perhaps, due to formal request from Commission or Network officers), the Trustees, with appropriate regard to the opinions of the Vice President for Programme and Science and the Advisory Council, reserves the right to disband Commissions and Networks at any time;

(g) Working Groups (including Panels) may be established at any time, either by the Trustees or by Networks and Commissions. Working Groups established by Networks and Commissions do not require the Trustees' approval unless they require funding support to perform their duties. In such cases, applications for the establishment of a Working Group should be made, in the first instance, to the Vice President for Science and Programme Coordination.

9.3 Membership structure of Commissions, Networks and Working Groups (including Panels):

(a) Commissions will be organised with a minimum of three officers - a Chair and two Co-Chairs, all of whom must be elected to their positions by Commission

members. Networks will be run by a minimum of three officers - a Director and two Co-Directors. These Directors will be appointed either by election or by informal agreement amongst active members. All officers of IAH Networks and Commissions must be members of the Association. Recognising that the formal appointment of officers will not be possible until Networks and Commissions have been approved by the Trustees and are actively running, it is accepted that there will be a need to appoint "caretaker" officers until such time that elections can be held or agreements made;

(b) Membership of Commissions and Networks is open to all members of the Association and membership should not be unreasonably denied. While membership of Commissions and Networks is not restricted to members of the Association, there is a requirement for Commission or Network members who are actively engaged as groundwater scientists to be registered members of the Association. Chairs of Working Groups (including Panels) must be members of the Association;

(c) There is an expectation that two members of the Early Career Hydrogeologists Network (ECHN) will be appointed to support the running of a Commission or Network.

10 AWARDS

10.1 The Association will from time-to-time create awards for outstanding technical contributions, service or other appropriate attributes that enhance hydrogeological sciences.

10.2 An award may be abolished by the Trustees, following a recommendation from the Executive Committee who shall take the advice of the Advisory Council, if it is deemed to be no longer relevant or in the interests of the Association for the award to continue.

10.3 The Trustees, with the advice of the Advisory Council, may from time to time establish a Working Group or Panel to promote and consider nominations for awards.

International Association of Hydrogeologists
the World-wide Groundwater Organisation

APPENDIX 1: IAH TRUSTEES

IAH is a charitable company registered in the UK. The Trustees of IAH are also its company directors and constitute the managing Board of IAH. IAH is subject to regulation by the Charity Commission and as a limited company under company law, including the Companies Act 2006.

The elected members of IAH's Executive Committee are Trustees of IAH. Additional Trustees may be appointed by the serving Trustees so that in total up to 50% of the Trustees are based in the UK. This number is set according to the prevailing legal or financial requirements or obligations and is intended to safeguard continuity of IAH's access to banking services in the UK.

Additional appointed Trustees may retire at any time and in any case shall stand down at the Annual General Meeting. They may be reappointed or further Trustees may be appointed as soon after the election of the Executive Committee as practical.

Trustees have legal and fiduciary duties to act in the best interests of the charity. They have formal oversight of the charity's activities, finances and its strategic direction and are responsible for ensuring compliance with charity and company law. They oversee financial and investment strategy, and assess and manage any risks to the administration of the charity.

IAH's Trustees must ensure that IAH is managed in compliance with its governing documents and its charitable objectives. The objectives of IAH are "to advance public education and promote research (and the useful results of such research) in the study and knowledge of hydrogeological science." The Trustees act collectively unless otherwise agreed.

Powers delegated by IAH's Trustees to the Executive Committee, Advisory Council, or individual members of these or other of IAH's constituted groups are documented through the Memorandum, Articles and Rules or by Board resolutions.

In discharging their obligations, Trustees must ensure:

- that the income of the charity has been applied for the purposes set out and for no other purpose;
- that it has been done fairly between various potentially benefiting interests;
- that funds have not been allowed to unreasonably accumulate other than for some stated and agreed purpose.

Trustees are legally accountable for running the company responsibly and for ensuring information is sent to Companies House on time. This includes:

- the confirmation statement;
- the annual accounts, even if they're dormant;
- any change in the company's officers or their personal details;
- any changes in company structure and management;
- a change to the company's registered office;
- call (general) meetings.

Trustees may not benefit personally from IAH or contract to do work for it.

Trustees have legal protection if they act honestly and reasonably.

Trustees are supported in their roles and responsibilities by personnel across the full structure of IAH, particularly IAH's Advisory Council, the Executive Committee and the Secretariat.

The public record of the company must also list the Company Secretary. Although the Company Secretary may be a Trustee this is not a requirement. Trustees' duties may be managed on their behalf by others, and the Executive Manager, a member of the IAH Secretariat, fulfils the role of Company Secretary for IAH, supported by the Secretariat. It is the job of the Company Secretary to ensure that the specific duties listed above are complied with but Trustees retain the legal responsibilities for IAH's records, accounts, performance and overall compliance.

IAH's Company Secretary registers Trustees, as Directors, by their private address and declares any other UK directorships held, as required under company law. Any change of permanent address must also be registered. The register of the current directors is a public document which must be available from the registered address of the company and from Companies House.

The Charity Commission for England and Wales provides guidance for IAH's trustees at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/charity-commission-guidance

Duties of a company director can be found in detail, along with guidance, at https://www.gov.uk/guidance/being-a-company-director

International Association of Hydrogeologists
the World-wide Groundwater Organisation

APPENDIX 2: IAH ADVISORY COUNCIL

IAH's Advisory Council comprises eight Regional Vice Presidents, the immediate Past President and the Director of the IAH Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network. Regional Vice Presidents are appointed to office through 4-yearly elections in which the whole membership of IAH is entitled to vote. The Director of the IAH Early Career Hydrogeologists' Network (ECHN) is elected by IAH members of ECHN. Only IAH members may stand in IAH elections.

Members of the Advisory Council are expected to serve the best interests of IAH. They commit to carrying out to the best of their ability their duties in furthering the aims of the Association's mission statement and its charitable objectives. The objectives of IAH are "to advance public education and promote research (and the useful results of such research) in the study and knowledge of hydrogeological science." Particular actions are set out in more detail in IAH's Strategic Plan and its planned activities for each year.

Responsibilities include advising and supporting the Executive Committee and other Trustees. They are expected to: participate in outreach to other organisations; make inputs to international policy development and reports in their region or field of influence; and to participate as appropriate in policy and scientific or technical working groups.

The ECHN Director is appointed to provide leadership in respect of and support to IAH's Early Career Hydrogeologists worldwide. Regional Vice Presidents are appointed to provide stewardship of IAH interests in a particular region. They are elected by the whole membership of IAH, not just from within their region, emphasising the broader roles and responsibilities to the overall membership of IAH of these positions.

Regional Vice Presidents' duties include:

- Promoting IAH in their region, including identification of suitable and relevant meetings and conferences in the region organised by others but at which IAH could be promoted;
- Promoting and encouraging the organisation of meetings by national chapters that could be of interest to the region;
- Coordinating with existing National Chapters in the region and identifying potential for new national chapters and promoting and supporting their establishment;
- Promoting membership of IAH amongst professionals in countries in the region where there is as yet insufficient membership for a national chapter;
- Identifying the causes of declining membership, where it applies within their region, and local and regional solutions to address this;
- Promoting the participation of membership in IAH's Commissions and Networks, according to the interests of the region;
- Representing the view of the region at IAH and other meetings;
- Reporting on a yearly basis on the work and activities of the Vice President in the region in relation to the development and growth of IAH and on the future opportunities for such growth;

- Encouraging national chapters in the region to submit their own annual reports to the IAH Secretariat.

Although it is accepted that funding limitations may mean that all Advisory Council members are unlikely to be able to attend all IAH meetings, they are expected to:

- maintain regular communication, including by e-mail, with the Executive Committee, IAH office and within their area of responsibility;
- prepare reports on activities and issues as requested;
- submit commentary on issues in writing if they cannot attend meetings;
- present apologies to the President when meetings cannot be attended.

Regional Vice Presidents may be assisted by Regional Advisors, approved by Council, in a non-voting capacity to look after more local interests of IAH in situations where the region is large and diverse.

The Articles of the Association provide powers to terminate the office of members of the Advisory Council if they fail to attend meetings without explanation or otherwise fail to carry out duties assigned to them.