

**BY-LAWS
OF
THE ARABIAN GEOSCIENCES UNION (ArabGU)**

**ARTICLE 1
Definition and Governing Rules**

The Arabian Geosciences Union, abbreviated ArabGU, is a nonprofit international union aims to promote Earth Sciences in the Arab World. ArabGU is: i) academic, ii) non-political, iii) non-sectarian, iiiii) carried on for no purposes of gain. ArabGU will operate and be governed in accordance with the provisions of its bylaws. The income and assets of the union will be applied to the realization of the objectives for which it was established. The ArabGU will be entitled to sue and be sued in its own name.

**ARTICLE 2
Objectives**

The objectives of the ArabGU shall be:

1. Endorsing the spread of academic and technical knowledge in the field of geosciences in the Arab World;
2. Promoting public understanding of the role of geosciences in the Arab World's development;
3. Establishing and maintaining relations between Arab geoscientists and the international scientific community;
4. Organizing conferences, seminars, symposia, training courses and workshops in all topics of geosciences;
5. Publishing and distributing a rigorously peer-reviewed online journal, Arabian Geo-Frontiers (AGF), in the field of geosciences;
6. Encourage and support for education, training and research in order to assist Arab people in their acquisition of specialized skills for innovation in geosciences;
7. Identify, promote and advise on the importance and preservation of geological sites in the Arab World in collaboration with other stakeholders;
8. Undertake these and all other activities as may be consistent with the objective of the union.

**ARTICLE 3
Members**

1. Classes of Members

The ArabGU shall have three classes of members. The designation of such classes and the qualifications and rights of the members of such classes shall be as follows:

A. Regular Members

Membership of the ArabGU shall be open to all geoscientists and institutions engaged in teaching, research, application and development of geosciences in the world over with an interest in the purposes of the ArabGU.

B. Honorary Members

Based on approval by the majority of the board of directors, honorary membership can be bestowed on individuals who have made significant contribution to the advancement of the geosciences in general and to

the Arabian-Middle East geosciences in particular. Honorary members have the same rights as regular members, but exempt from paying membership fees.

C. Student Members

This membership class shall be opened to any student pursuing a degree in geosciences from all over the world. Student members will have no voting rights and will enjoy reduced membership fees.

2. Membership Fees

Annual membership fees shall be determined by the board of directors and approved by the majority of membership attending the ArabGU meeting. Membership fees shall be payable on the first month of the calendar year.

3. Admission of Members

Any individual or institution desires to becoming a member of the ArabGU shall submit an application form accompanied with membership fees to the Secretary General. The Secretary General will, on behalf of the President, and after approval from the Board of Directors admit such individual or institution to the ArabGU membership.

4. Termination of Membership

A member of the ArabGU may be removed from membership on a majority vote of the board of directors for not paying annual membership fees, or because of ethical issues. Members also retain the right to request for their withdrawal from the ArabGU membership.

ARTICLE 4

Board of Directors

1. Definition, Duties and Responsibilities

The affairs of the ArabGU shall be managed by its board of directors. Directors must be members of the ArabGU. Student members may not serve as members of the board of directors. Individuals serving in the Senior Advisory Board of the ArabGU may not at the same time serve as members of the board of directors. The Board of Directors shall exercise all powers and do all acts in furtherance of the objectives for which the ArabGU is established. The Board of Directors shall authorize expenditures, propose amendments to these by-laws, and fill vacancies occurring in any office. It shall also hear reports of officers as well as petitions from members.

2. Officers and Tenure

The Board of Directors shall constitute a President, three Vice-Presidents, the three Founding Team Members, Secretary General, Treasurer and Webmaster. The three Founding Team Members shall be perpetual members of the board of directors and will retain the post of the Secretary General. Non-perpetual officers (President, three Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Webmaster) shall serve for a term of two years period.

3. Definition of Founding Team Members

Founding Team Members are those three individuals who came up with the idea of forming the ArabGU, laid down its foundation and worked to initiate it and make it known among the world's community of geoscientists. Founding Team Members are Zakaria Hamimi, PhD; Basem Zoheir, PhD; and Mohamed Zobaa, PhD.

4. Election of Non-perpetual Officers

Non-perpetual officers of the board of directors shall be elected every two years during the ArabGU meeting on the majority of membership vote.

5. Board Meetings

The board of directors shall meet whenever summoned by the President. The board shall, however, meet at least every two years during the ArabGU meeting. The President may exercise the casting of vote when necessary. Each attending board member shall be entitled to exercise one vote. The Quorum of the board of directors shall be a majority of the board members attending the meeting.

ARTICLE 5 Amendments to the By-laws

Amendments to these by-laws may be proposed by the board of directors, or by a petition, signed by at least 20 ArabGU members, submitted to the President. The board of directors shall review, modify as needed and approve submitted amendments. Final approval of proposed amendments shall be on a majority of vote of the ArabGU members.

