

**Constitution**  
**World Coalition for Equity and Diversity in Education**  
June, 2017  
Angers, France

**PREAMBLE**

The World Coalition for Equity and Diversity in Education (WCEDE) is an association of national, regional, and international associations that work toward advancing inclusive and cross-cultural education that is based on principles of diversity, social justice, equity, and human rights, both within and across national borders, with the goal of serving the public good around the world. The Coalition is committed to supporting member associations as well as assisting in the development of such associations where there is interest but no such association currently exists. The associations that constitute the Coalition are resolved to working together through international and reciprocal collaborations for the purpose of building a global movement to advance research, curriculum, pedagogy, policies, and practices that promote equity, social justice and human rights in education in ways that honor multiple and intersectional dimensions of human diversity. Fundamental to the Coalition is a commitment as a community of non-profit associations and non-governmental agencies to share knowledge, skills, strengths, and sensitivities and build upon the diversity of traditions, languages, and critiques to transcend what any one association can accomplish in its own country, region, or area of specialization. The Coalition operates with this criterion in setting priorities and taking on projects, programs, or other activities.

**ARTICLE I. DEFINITION, PURPOSES, OBJECTIVES, AND LEGAL VENUE**

Section 1. The World Coalition for Equity and Diversity in Education is an international, non-profit, non-governmental organization of associations established to advance equity in education around the world.

Section 2. The purposes of the WCEDE are world-wide in scope and grounded in principles of equity, diversity, human rights, social justice and anti-colonialism. They are:

1. to facilitate global dialog about issues, policies, and practices related to diversity and equity in education,
2. to broaden understandings of diversity and equity in education by considering the interplay among local, national, and global contexts; on-going impacts of colonization, and globalization; and the interests of peoples along multiple dimensions of diversity,
3. to explore diversity within a context of interdependence and interconnectedness,

4. to promote and facilitate international exchange and co-operation in research and practice,
5. to build and expand capacity to undertake transformation of education based on the above principles, and
6. to facilitate global movement building that advances the above principles.

Section 3. The domicile of the World Coalition for Equity and Diversity in Education is the place in which the Secretary General is based.

Section 4: The WCEDE is chartered in (state), United States (TBD).

## **ARTICLE II. MEMBERSHIP**

Section 1. Organizations that are committed to social justice, human rights, environmental rights, intercultural education, multicultural education, or other closely related work, are eligible for Membership. Members in good standing shall have fulfilled their financial obligations to the WCEDE.

Section 2. Applications for Membership in the WCEDE may be made to the Secretary General. The application shall be considered and approved by the Executive Committee and finally approved by Coalition.

Section 3. Members appoint representatives to the Coalition, pay a fee on a scale determined by the WCEDE's Council, have voting rights, are eligible to advance candidates for elected or appointed office, and assume other such duties and responsibilities as specified by the Council.

## **ARTICLE III. GOVERNANCE**

The World Coalition for Equity and Diversity in Education shall be governed by a Council and an Executive Committee of the Council. The Executive Committee shall constitute the Officers of the WCEDE. All officers are elected by the WCEDE Council.

Section 1. The Officers of the WCEDE include a President, a President-Elect, an Immediate Past President, and a Secretary General. The President-Elect shall succeed the President at the close of a Council meeting after two years.

Section 2. The President shall serve as Chair of the WCEDE Council and of the Executive Committee. If the President is absent, or the Office of President becomes vacant, the

President-Elect shall assume the duties of the President. The Executive Committee is authorized to hold an election by mail (including electronic mail) to fill other vacancies on the Executive Committee and to make interim appointments until an election is conducted.

Section 3. The Secretary General shall execute the decisions of WCEDE Council and the Executive Committee, serve as secretary-treasurer, and manage the administrative, financial, and programmatic operations of the WCEDE. The Secretary General shall be responsible for administrative or secretariat functions.

Section 4. The President-elect shall be elected for terms of two years by the WCEDE Council. Past Presidents are not eligible to be nominated to serve a second term as President-elect. The Secretary General shall be elected to serve a term of four years and is eligible for re-election for one successive term. Except for the Secretary General, the terms of office shall be from July 1 until June 30 after two years.

Section 5. A nomination process shall be determined by the WCEDE Council. It shall be guided by principles of inclusiveness among its members and of regions of the world in nominating candidates for office. Any individual who is a member of a Member association is eligible to be nominated for office.

Section 6. Officers shall be elected by March 1 in the year of an election. The Secretary General, acting on behalf of the Executive Committee, shall direct the election process beginning with a formal announcement and call for nominations at least three months prior to the election. The election shall be open and transparent and be conducted in a manner (such as electronic balloting) to be determined by the Executive Committee. In electing officers, each member organization shall have a single transferable vote.

#### **ARTICLE IV. COUNCIL**

Section 1. The WCEDE Council consists of representatives chosen by the member organizations of the World Coalition for Equity and Diversity in Education.

Section 2. Each member organization in good standing shall appoint three representatives to the Council; member organizations shall select their own process for appointing representatives. Each member organization in good standing shall have one vote in Council deliberations and elections.

Section 3. At any meeting of Council, an alternate member may represent a member association in good standing and shall be entitled to exercise votes in Council on behalf of that association.

Section 4. The Council shall elect the Officers according to the procedures set forth in Article III, Section 5.

Section 5. Meetings of Council shall take place on a regular basis on a schedule and at a place or in a manner (including via electronic venues) to be determined by Council. The Secretary General shall apprise all Council members of meetings and agendas.

Section 6. Council shall have the authority to introduce and approve initiatives, activities, and programs consonant with the purposes of the World Coalition for Equity and Diversity in Education.

Section 7. A majority of Council members present at a meeting shall constitute a quorum. Actions of Council shall require majority approval of those present at a meeting, with the exception of amendments to the Constitution which shall require a two-thirds majority of all members of Council. Council may vote on an action by mail (including by electronic means) as long as Council members unanimously agree to do so.

#### **ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall consist of the Officers of WCEDE, who shall serve according to terms of office set forth in Article III, Section 3.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall fill vacancies on the Executive Committee in accordance with Article III, Section 2.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall act on behalf of the Council in between its meetings and make all decisions necessary for the Coalition's operations and the realization of its purposes. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to implement programs and policies of the WCEDE and undertake activities consonant with its purposes. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to establish special or temporary committees, task forces, or study commissions that advance the purposes of the WCEDE; specify the charge and purposes of such bodies; and require their reporting back to the Executive Committee or Council of the WCEDE.

Section 4. The Executive Committee shall submit an annual report to the Council of the WCEDE, including a financial report and a description of work the WCEDE has undertaken over the past year. The Executive Committee shall prepare the agenda for meetings of the Council, recommend policies that require Council action, and provide guidance to Council on any changes to the fees assessed for membership.

Section 5. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall take place at least twice a year, at a

place or electronic venue to be determined by the Executive Committee. The Secretary General shall apprise all Executive Committee members of meetings and agendas.

#### **ARTICLE VI. MEMBERSHIP FEES**

The Council of the WCEDE shall establish the fee rates for membership in the World Coalition for Equity and Diversity in Education. Between meetings, Council may alter fee rates in accordance with the procedures set forth in Article IV, Section 7. In exceptional cases, the Executive Committee may approve a temporary reduction in the fees of a member association until such time as Council reviews and establishes the fee rate.

#### **ARTICLE VII. AMENDMENTS**

This Constitution may be amended by a two-third vote of members of Council, provided that written notice of the proposed change has been endorsed by at least half of the members of Council and the amendment has been distributed to all members at least thirty days prior to the vote.

#### **ARTICLE VIII. DISSOLUTION**

In case of the dissolution of the World Coalition for Equity and Diversity in Education voted and agreed upon by at least two thirds of the Council, the available funds shall be divided and given by the Executive Committee to all member organizations whose work reflects the purposes of this organization.

**Amended:** April, 2019 (*eliminate the role of Vice-President*)