

# Articles SRA-E Benelux Chapter of the Society for Risk Analysis Europe (SRA-E: Benelux)

## 1. NAME AND DEFINITIONS

The International non-profit SRA-E: BENELUX is organized in accordance with the present Articles of Association. SRA-E: BENELUX is a regional chapter of Society for Risk Analysis Europe. SRA-E: BENELUX is a network node with no financial responsibilities.

## 2. OBJECTIVES

The BENELUX Chapter shares the aim with SRA Europe “to bring together individuals and organisations interested in risk assessment, risk management and risk communication in Europe”.

### 2.1 The special objectives of the SRA-E: BENELUX are:

- (a) To promote risk research and knowledge and understanding of risk analysis techniques within the Benelux countries. The Benelux countries include: Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg.
- (b) To identify and address specifically issues common to Benelux countries in the field of risk, to promote debate, and to impress upon decision-makers the usefulness of risk research, critical analyses and risk analysis in dealing with such issues.
- (c) To act as a focal point for communication with risk researchers and analysts in other parts of the world.
- (d) To facilitate exchanges of information and opinion between professionals in industry, government, universities, research institutes, and consultancies, with the aim of furthering research and improving the practical application of risk analysis and risk management.
- (e) To convene and promote scientific and educational meetings on risk research, risk analysis and risk management in the Benelux countries.

### 2.2 The general objectives of the SRA-E: BENELUX shall be to foster and promote:

- (a) Knowledge and understanding of risk analysis techniques and their applications.
- (b) Communication and interaction among individuals engaged in risk analysis.
- (c) Application of risk analysis and risk management techniques to the hazards and risks to which individuals and populations are exposed.
- (d) Advancement of the state-of-the-art in all aspect of risk analysis.
- (e) Integration and interaction of the various disciplines involved in risk analysis.

## 3. DURATION

The SRA-E: BENELUX is formed for an indefinite period. However, it can be voluntarily dissolved by its General Assembly.

## 4. FINANCES

SRA-E: BENELUX will have no financial responsibilities. Expenses for its activities will be kept by other parties.

## **5. MEMBERSHIP**

Any member of SRA-E in the region has automatic default membership. Those outside the region who have an interest may opt in if they wish to be part of SRA:E BENELUX for instance if they want to take part in a specific meeting. All Members shall be free to resign if they want so.

## **6. STRUCTURE OF SRA-E: BENELUX**

For purposes of performing the duties set forth in these Articles of SRA-E: BENELUX, the SRA-E: BENELUX shall have:

- a General Assembly
- a Board (President, President elect, Officials, Rapporteur and Student representative)
- a Scientific Committee
- a Nomination Committee

## **7. GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

### **7.1. Composition and Representation**

General Assembly shall consist of all Members and the ‘General Assembly Meeting’ is the highest decision-making body of SRA-E: BENELUX. All members have voting rights. The Board may invite other (third) parties as guests to attend the meetings of the General Assembly. These guests will not have voting rights. A General Assembly Meeting shall be held at least every second year at a place, date and time determined by the Board.

### **7.2 Voting Procedures**

Resolutions of the General Assembly shall be adopted by a simple majority of the votes of the Members present or represented. Due to the international character of the SRA-E: BENELUX, distance voting shall be accepted.

All nominees must be Members of SRA-E: Benelux. The Nomination Committee must use its best endeavors to ensure that all elections are contested and must have regard to the need for nominees representing a broad range of scientific disciplines, types of organizations and countries. It must inform the candidates of the rights and duties of members of the Board, and it must verify that they have the will and ability to take an active role in the Board.

The Board will announce the number of mandates to be filled. Election shall take place by a ballot of all Members of the Benelux Chapter, which shall be held by acclamation at the General Assembly or by e-mail/web during or about the General Assembly meeting where the latter is conducted using the following voting procedure:

- (i) one single list of eligible candidates, where
- (ii) each voter indicates his/her choice for as many candidates as he/she likes, with as maximum the number of mandates, by marking the names of the candidates on the ballot list.

Up to the number of mandates, the candidates obtaining the highest number of votes will be the elected.

The elected members of the Board may appoint among themselves replacements for the position of at least the President and the Rapporteur to ensure continuity of proceedings should a member be temporarily unable to fulfill his obligations.

### **7.3 Notification of Decisions to the Members**

The Minutes of the General Assembly Meetings shall be signed by the Chairman and the General Secretary. Members shall be provided with the Minutes by post or by electronic mail or by posting on the SRA-E: BENELUX's website no later than 4 weeks after the meeting.

#### **7.4 The General Assembly Meeting**

The General Assembly Meeting shall discuss and resolve on, and its agenda shall include the following items:

- (i) Reporting of the previous and planned activities/resolutions in the SRA-E:
- (ii) Elect members of the Board
- (iii) Elect members of the nomination committee
- (iv) To discuss suggestions of future activities/resolutions

### **8. BOARD**

#### **8.1 Composition**

Members of the Board shall be elected by the General Assembly. A member of the Board can be elected for a period of 1 to maximum 5 years. The Board constitutes a President, a President elect, two Officials, a Rapporteur and a Student representative. A member of the Board of the SRA-E: BENELUX may resign by notifying the President and Rapporteur in writing.

#### **8.2 Nomination and Election**

A committee composed of two representatives of the General Assembly is constituted to nominate the member of the Board, (the 'Nomination Committee').

Nominations for election as an Elected Director may be made by the Nominating Committee or by any Member of the SRA-E: BENELUX, delivered to the Rapporteur or chairperson of the Nominating Committee.

#### **8.3 Powers**

The Board is vested with the most extended powers in order to make any acts of management which are necessary or useful for the achievement of the objectives of the SRA-E: BENELUX and is (given that appropriate resources are available) bound to enforce decisions adopted by the General Assembly.

The Board shall be executive and have, amongst others, the responsibility to:

- (i) Prepare proposals to be presented for the approval of the General Assembly;
- (ii) Establish a register of Members;
- (iii) Create permanent committees and ad-hoc bodies as required to promote the goals and activities of the SRA-E: BENELUX and monitor actions and performance of these bodies; appoint the members of such committees and bodies;
- (vi) Prepare and organize the elections of the members of the Board;
- (vii) Appoint the President and the Rapporteur;
- (viii) Convene General Assembly Meetings and report on its activities at General Assembly Meetings;
- (ix) Inform the SRA-E committee of planned events so that the committee can help promote it and co-ordinate with other activities.

### **9. SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE**

The scientific committee is a network of researchers and policy makers with competence and interest in contributing to the aims of SRA-E: BENELUX. A member of the scientific committee will be encouraged to aid the chapter to identify cutting edge trends, provide suggestions on themes for chapter meetings, and work as scientific advisors on individual activities. Membership of the scientific committee is commissioned by the Board and by the General Assembly.

#### **10. NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

The Nomination Committee should consist of at least two members that are elected at the General Assembly meeting. The Nomination Committee is responsible for the nomination of the members of the Board.