



GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

*This text on the Governance and Organisational Structure of IETM was approved by the IETM General Assembly held by written consent from 2-24 June 2021.
By proposal of the IETM board at the 2026 General assembly the role of the IETM advisory committee will be under revision between 2026 - 2027. All older versions of the IETM Governance and Organisational Structure are hereby outdated.*

IETM – International network for contemporary performing arts is a membership organisation. Founded in 1981, IETM is a large and influential network, with members from all genres of the performing arts and all functions in the ecosystem: artists, producers, companies, venues, festivals, research and resource centers, residencies, networks and associations, governmental bodies, etc.

IETM stimulates the quality, development, and context of the contemporary performing arts, in all its diversity. IETM advocates the value of the arts and culture and empowers performing arts professionals through access to international connections, knowledge, and a dynamic forum for exchange.

IETM serves its members by organising networking opportunities, peer-to-peer learning, exchanges and dialogues via various events. IETM commissions publications and research, facilitates communication and distribution of information about the performing arts and advocates for the position of performing arts professionals, worldwide.

IETM aims to create a more inclusive contemporary arts field by engaging with underrepresented performing arts professionals, regardless of their background, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical abilities, social conditions, working and employment status, age, career path and geographical location.

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IETM is an association, based in Brussels, and operates under Belgian law.

MEMBERS

IETM members are arts organisations or individuals, professionally involved in the contemporary performing arts and interested in international cooperation; be it in education, production, presentation, curation, promotion, support, and research. Members work in all different disciplines from across the contemporary performing arts.

Associate Members are organisations which support the performing arts field: public institutions, official funding bodies (national or international), arts funding organisations, foundations, etc.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly, held once a year, is the highest authority of the Association. All members have the right to attend the General Assembly, and each member has one vote. Decisions are made by voting, in presence of at least 10% of the members. Members can be represented by another member by a written proxy.

The objectives of the General Assembly are:

- to approve the budgets, the membership fees and the accounts;
- to elect and dismiss the Board of Directors and appointed Committee members;
- to amend the articles of the Association;
- to dissolve the Association.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The General Assembly delegates its authority to the Board of Directors, between meetings. The Board of Directors consists of seven members who report to the General Assembly.

The Board of Directors has the following responsibilities and powers to oversee:

- the legal and financial governance of IETM;
- monitoring and approving the internal proceedings and rules of the network;
- suggestions and modifications of the statutes of IETM to be presented at the General Assembly;
- planning of the General Assembly;

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- appointing the Secretary General;
- assisting the Secretary General in official representation of the network.

The Board of Directors operates according to the Statutes of the network. It is elected by the General Assembly, upon proposal by the Board of Directors, following an open call across the membership. The members of the Board of Directors are elected on individual basis and do not represent their IETM member organisations.

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The mandate of each Director is three years, with the possibility to renew the mandate once, upon approval at the General Assembly. The quorum has four members. The Board of Directors meets at least twice a year and at the special request of the President. IETM covers travel and accommodation costs for attendance to Board meetings which take place outside of the annual Plenary Meetings.

The Board of Directors selects from amongst its members the following roles to act as the daily Board:

- President;
- Vice President;
- Treasurer;
- Secretary.

The President is the Chair of the Board of Directors, selected from amongst the members of the Board of Directors. The Vice President is the Vice-Chair of the Board selected from amongst the Board. The Treasurer reviews and monitors the financial accounts of the network and is responsible for presenting the accounts with the Secretary General at the General Assembly. The Secretary is responsible for keeping the minutes of meetings of the Board of Directors and the minutes of the General Assembly.

The Board of Directors delegates the day to day management of the network to the Secretary General and mandates the Secretary General with powers in compliance with Belgian/EU accounting, tax requirements/legal requirements, and the Belgian employment law.

THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Appointed by the Board of Directors, upon an open call for application. The mandate of the Secretary General is for a fixed term of five years that can be extended for a second term. The Secretary General is accountable to the Board of Directors and shall on a regular basis present the Board of Directors with financial and operational reports, management accounts,

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and annual reports for approval. In addition the Secretary General consults the Board of Directors with IETM Plenary Meeting proposals and informs the Board of Directors of other relevant activities in a timely manner.

The Secretary General is responsible for developing the vision and strategy of the organisation, defined together with the Board of Directors, in addition to overseeing its implementation. The Secretary General is the manager of the IETM Secretariat team and is responsible for hiring all members of the IETM team.

APPOINTED COMMITTEES

The General Assembly can at any given time, approve appointment of a Committee set up permanently or temporarily to serve the IETM membership such as the Advisory Committee.

By proposal of the IETM board at the 2026 General assembly the role of the IETM advisory committee will be under revision between 2026 - 2027 and a new proposal will be presented at the 2027 General Assembly.

WORKING GROUPS

IETM has several informal temporary, non-statutory, self-organised, working groups which serve the network and can be set up independently by IETM members through contacting the Secretariat.

All governing bodies, committees, and working groups within the network shall be representative of the diversity of the IETM membership and aim to be balanced in terms of background, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, physical abilities, social conditions, working and employment status, age, career path, geographical location, and type/size of structure, with an attention to underrepresented groups.

For more information on IETM's structure and organisation, please visit IETM's website: www.ietm.org.

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