

# STATUTE OF THE LATVIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

(Approved by the Decision No. 7 of the General Meeting of the Latvian Academy of Sciences on 14 February 1992. Amended by the decisions of the General Meetings of the Latvian Academy of Sciences on 24 November 1992, 11 February 1993, 18 February 1994, 21 November 1997, 4 April 2002, 3 April 2008, 29 November 2012, and 8 October 2020.)

## Article 1

### GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1. The Latvian Academy of Sciences (LAS) is a derived legal entity under public law in the public administration system with autonomous competence which consists of elected Members of the LAS. Its rights and obligations have been established in the LAS Charter, the Law on Scientific Activity, and other laws, as well as the LAS Statute, and its operation is partly funded from the State budget. Its operational objectives, basic orientations, legal and economic grounds, administration system, and rights and obligations have been specified in the LAS Charter which has been approved by the Saeima (Parliament) of the Republic of Latvia. The Saeima of the Republic of Latvia or the Cabinet of Ministers may delegate special tasks and authorities to the LAS in the sphere of science. Members of the LAS are elected prominent Latvian and foreign scientists, and Honorary Members - universally recognised Latvian intellectuals of other spheres as well. On contractual or associative basis, or in other legal forms, the LAS may affiliate legally independent scientific research institutions, societies, foundations, scientific technical organisations, universities, and other institutions of higher education. Their cooperation with the LAS is determined by mutual agreements. In order to implement objectives of the LAS, groups of scientists or institutions may be formed which may function within the LAS, as well as experts from among scientists and specialists may be attracted.

1.2. The LAS collaborates with Ministries of the Republic of Latvia, the Latvian Council of Science, and other similar institutions of a public character in the analysis, assessment, and formulation of strategies and current important issues of Latvian science, research and innovations. Ministries may delegate special authorities to the LAS in the sphere of science ensuring their implementation with adequate funding.

1.3. The abbreviation of the Latvian Academy of Sciences is LZA (or LAS in English). Its name in other languages should be translated as follows: Academia Scientiarum Latviensis (in Latin), Latvian Academy of Sciences (in English), Académie des Sciences de Lettonie (in French), Akademie der Wissenschaften Lettlands (in German), Латвийская Академия наук (in Russian).

1.4. The registered office of the LAS is at Akadēmijas laukums 1, Rīga, LV-1524, Latvia; its web address is <http://www.lza.lv>.

1.5. The symbols of the LAS are regulated by a special Statute. Colours of the LAS are white, cobalt blue, and gold. The seal of the LAS contains the Small Coat of Arms of the Republic of Latvia and the words "Latvijas Zinātņu akadēmija - *Academia Scientiarum Latviensis*".

1.6. The Latvian Academy of Sciences marks 14 February as "The Day of the Academy", as on 14 February 1946, the Members of the Academy gathered for their first General Meeting, and on 14 February 1992, the LAS adopted its Charter and new Statute.

## **Article 2**

### **OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVES AND BASIC ORIENTATIONS**

2.1. The LAS has the following operational objectives and basic orientations:

2.1.1. to carry out and encourage studies in basic and applied sciences;

2.1.2. to investigate the history of the Latvian people and the State; to study the culture, history, and prospects of Latvia; to encourage the investigation and perfection of the Latvian language; to assess natural resources of Latvia and possibilities for their optimal use; and to promote studies related to the protection of environment;

2.1.3. to forecast processes of the development of Latvia, to report promptly to the nation and Government about scientific forecasts on desirable and undesirable consequences of different processes in the national economy, culture, and social procedures;

2.1.4. to develop a knowledge-based society and to promote the development of innovative technologies in Latvia;

2.1.5. to provide the highest quality scientific expertise; to give expert conclusions on the principal questions with regard to Latvia and the Baltic area;

2.1.6. to participate in the development and implementation of national research programmes and regional research programmes of the Baltics and the European Union;

2.1.7. to take an active part in the development and implementation of the Latvian science policy; to promptly advise the Saeima, the President of the State, the Government and their authorities on the matters of science;

2.1.8. to enter into agreements or associative relations with scientific and professional societies, funds, unions, and associations of Latvia; to confer the name of the LAS to institutions associated with the LAS; to take part in the evaluation of the main research trends of these institutions if it is stipulated by a mutual agreement;

2.1.9. to develop an active cooperation with institutions of higher education of Latvia, to develop a single academic environment in Latvia and to take part in the training of scientists of the highest qualification;

2.1.10. to encourage the publishing of scientific literature and encyclopaedias and increase their scientific level in Latvia;

2.1.11. to promote the development of Latvian scientific terminology;

2.1.12. to organise scientific congresses, conferences, open sessions of the LAS, and competitions, and to promote achievements of science;

2.1.13. to develop interdisciplinary studies, to initiate foundation of new scientific directions;

2.1.14. to cooperate with other academies of sciences, scientific associations, unions and societies; to maintain international scientific relations and represent science of Latvia in international scientific organisations;

2.1.15. to award prizes and scholarships of the LAS for work in science, including together with universities, other institutions of higher education and patrons of science, or other science-supporting organisations; to take part in recommending and deciding about international awards for work in science;

2.1.16. to evaluate the contribution and potential of the Latvian scientists and of foreign scientists connected with Latvia, and to recommend them for election as Full, Foreign, Honorary, or Corresponding Members of the LAS;

2.1.17. to promote studies in the history of science of Latvia and in scientometrics ensuring the preservation and cultivation of scientific traditions;

2.1.18. to develop and further improve the Scientist's Code of Ethics and the principles of scientific discussions;

2.1.19. to involve new generations of researchers into science;

2.1.20. social protection of the retired scientists (including the State Emeritus ones) and support for their activities.

2.2. The LAS fulfils its operational objectives set in the LAS Charter and Paragraph 2.1 of the present Statute through activities of its Members and of institutions formed by the Academy, and through promotion of funding of separate scientific studies, and scientifically organisational and publishing activities.

### **Article 3**

#### **THE LAS MEMBERS**

3.1. The LAS is composed of the following:

3.1.1. Full Members (academicians), out of which no more than 100 may be under the age of 70;

3.1.2. Honorary Members (no more than 60 in total);

3.1.3. Foreign Members (no more than 100);

3.1.4. Corresponding Members (out of which no more than 100 may be under the age of 70).

3.2. The LAS Members are elected under the following procedure:

3.2.1. Full Members of the LAS are elected Latvian scientists whose studies have been widely recognised in Latvia and abroad. An elected Full Member of the LAS after the age of 70 is not included in the total number stipulated in Paragraph 3.1.1, however, he or she, retains the vote in the LAS convocations.

3.2.2. Honorary Members of the LAS are elected prominent figures of science, culture, national economy, education, and social sphere of Latvia or foreign countries who reside and work in Latvia or who have close cooperation with Latvia and its science.

3.2.3. Foreign Members of the LAS are elected outstanding scientists of the world who mainly reside and work abroad.

3.2.3.1. When selecting candidates for Foreign Members, particular attention is paid to the scientists of Latvian origin who reside and work abroad.

3.2.3.2. When moving for permanent residence in Latvia and commencing scientific activity here in Latvia, a Foreign Member of the LAS may be elected a Full or Corresponding Member of the LAS by voting of the General Meeting.

3.2.4. Corresponding Members of the LAS are elected scientists who have gained recognition in any field of science in Latvia, who can represent the relevant field of science on a qualified level, evaluate scientific work and scientific orientations corresponding to their speciality. An elected Corresponding Member of the LAS after the age of 70 is not included in the total number stipulated in Paragraph 3.1.4, he or she, however, retains the vote in the LAS convocations. When a Corresponding Member of the LAS reaches the age of 70, a new vacancy is opened for the election of a new Member.

3.2.5. The General Meeting of the LAS delegates to the LAS Senate the authority to develop regulations for the election of the LAS Members and Doctors honoris causa.

3.3. The LAS Members have the following rights:

3.3.1. to suggest discussing of scientific and scientifically organisational questions at a meeting of the LAS or its Division, as well as at the General Meeting of the LAS;

3.3.2. to receive information on the LAS, its structure, and activities of its Divisions;

3.3.3. to discontinue their membership in the LAS by submitting a written notification to the LAS Presidium;

3.3.4. to receive remuneration for performing individual LAS tasks under Paragraph 5.6.4 of the present Statute;

3.3.5. to maintain for life the title acquired by election to the LAS, except in cases stipulated in Paragraphs 3.3.3 and 3.7 of the present Statute;

3.3.6. to carry out scientific activity within the LAS, to organise, with the consent of the LAS Senate, scientific structures - working groups, centres, and institutes, including both structural units of the LAS and legal entities associated with the LAS.

3.4. The LAS Members have the following obligations:

3.4.1. to take an active part in the implementation of the LAS operational objectives;

3.4.2. to participate at General Meetings, sessions, and other activities of the LAS;

3.4.3. to publish results of their studies in Latvijas Zinātņu Akadēmijas Vēstis (A) / Proceedings of the Latvian Academy of Sciences (B) or in other scientific issues;

3.4.4. to participate in scientific evaluations and provide advice within their competence;

3.4.5. to submit, on an annual basis, to the LAS brief information in writing on their scientific or other activities, especially focusing on the work conducted in fulfilment of the LAS operational objectives (Paragraph 2.1 of the Statute), and the information to be added on the personal website which is maintained by the LAS. Honorary Members and Foreign Members, as well as Full Members who have reached the age of 70 may provide information orally at their respective Divisions.

3.5. The LAS Foreign Members have the following rights and obligations:

3.5.1. In addition to the aforementioned in Paragraphs 3.3 and 3.4, the LAS Foreign Members may be involved as experts in the evaluation of Latvian and international scientific projects, as well as in rendering assistance in order to establish and strengthen contacts with the Latvian science and scientists in countries of their residence.

3.5.2. The LAS Foreign Members who reside in the same foreign country or foreign region may form a division of foreign members; establishment of such a division and its operational objectives are approved by the General Meeting of the LAS.

3.5.3. According to its financial possibilities the LAS covers accommodation costs incurred in Latvia by a Foreign Member or an Honorary Member residing outside Latvia, if this visit takes place at the LAS invitation.

3.6. Formation of the LAS funds.

3.6.1. The LAS forms the Fund of the LAS which is aimed at attracting financial resources in order to promote scientific and academic activities of scientists and students, organise scientific conferences, prepare and publish scientific literature, solve social problems of scientists, and carry out any other activities by following instructions of the donors. Operation of the Fund is carried out according to the Regulations approved by the LAS. The Chairperson of the Fund of the LAS is elected by the General Meeting of the LAS from its Full Members.

3.6.2. In order to achieve its operational objectives and basic orientations (Article 2 of the Statute), the LAS may also form other aid funds to attract additional resources. The procedure for their formation, use, and control is approved by the Presidium of the LAS on the recommendation of the Board of the LAS.

3.7. Procedure for secession from the LAS.

3.7.1. The General Meeting of the LAS may suggest that the LAS Full Members and Corresponding Members secede from the LAS in the event of a serious breach of the Scientist's Code of Ethics.

3.7.2. If a LAS Member has informed the Presidium of the LAS about his or her secession from the LAS in accordance with Paragraph 3.3.3 of the present Statute, information regarding this secession and reasons specified in the relevant notification are presented and a decision to strike this person off the lists of the LAS members is taken at the regular General Meeting of the LAS.

3.8. Procedure for election of the LAS members.

3.8.1. Election of new LAS Members takes place in accordance with the present Statute. The provisions specified in Paragraph 3.1 of the present Statute about the total number of the relevant Members should be observed at the election. New LAS Members are elected by the LAS Full Members.

3.8.1.1. Vacancies for new LAS Full and Foreign Members appear within the quotas stipulated in Paragraph 3.1 of the present Statute, or when the existing LAS Full and Foreign Members reach the age of 70. When electing new Full and Foreign Members, a common competition of candidates takes place with no privileges granted to any speciality (unless the General Meeting or the LAS Senate decides otherwise). The LAS Senate announces the number of vacancies in April.

3.8.1.2. Vacancies for new LAS Corresponding Members appear within the quotas stipulated in Paragraph 3.1.4 of the present Statute, or when the LAS Corresponding Members reach the age of 70. When electing new Corresponding Members, a competition takes place within the announced fields of science. The LAS Divisions suggest the relevant fields of science and the number of vacancies for Corresponding Members by indicating the

possible candidates. The final decision on the number of vacancies and the fields of science is taken by the LAS Senate considering different recommendations.

3.8.1.3. The LAS Honorary Members are elected by the General Meeting of the LAS without any competition announced in advance on recommendation of the LAS Senate and within the quotas stipulated in Paragraph 3.1.2 of the present Statute. Candidates for the LAS Honorary Members may be nominated by the LAS Full and Honorary Members.

3.8.2. The Secretary General of the LAS informs, through the press, the LAS Members, scientific institutions, universities and other institutions of higher education, scientific societies, and other organisations of scientists about the vacancies for the LAS Members by the end of April each year.

3.9. The LAS degree of the Doctor honoris causa (Dr.h.c.) is conferred to foreign and Latvian scientists whose work in the relevant field of science has gained international recognition, whose contribution has influenced the development of Latvian science and culture, and who have creative scientific contacts with the LAS. The LAS Doctor honoris causa is conferred by the LAS Divisions and approved by the LAS Senate. The LAS Honorary Doctors have the rights stipulated in the Law on Scientific Activity, as well as the voting rights in the LAS Divisions.

3.10. A title of the LAS Honorary Patron may be awarded under a decision of the Senate, presenting a relevant diploma in the event of considerable financial and moral support of the Latvian science in order to promote achievement of the operational objectives of the LAS (Paragraph 2.1 of the Statute).

## **Article 4**

### **THE LAS CONVOCATIONS**

4.1. The LAS convocations mainly take place in a form of General Meetings, meetings (sessions), symposia, conferences, and discussions.

4.1.1. Convocations are convened when necessary. Agenda of the regular convocations should be announced in advance.

4.1.2. Extraordinary General Meetings are convened by the President or the Presidium of the LAS on their own initiative or on recommendation of any Division, or if it is required by at least 25 LAS Members. Extraordinary General Meeting is competent if it is known that 2/3 of the Full Members (of the total number stipulated in Paragraph 3.1.1) have received information about it at least 24 hours before the convocation.

4.1.3. Information on the held convocations is published in Latvijas Zinātņu Akadēmijas Vēstis (A) and/or other scientific issues and press of Latvia, as well as on the LAS website.

4.2. The LAS meetings include the following:

4.2.1. listening to lectures and thematic reports of the LAS Members, Honorary Doctors, and other scientists;

4.2.2. discussions on specific activities aimed at fulfilment of the operational objectives set in the LAS Charter and the present Statute, and adoption of the relevant recommendations;

4.2.3. assessment of national programmes and programmes of national importance of Latvia, the relevant projects, and final results of their implementation; proposals to form working groups in order to promote development of programmes and projects;

4.2.4. discussions on foundation or liquidation of institutions and organisations necessary for provision of the LAS operation and fulfilment of its operational objectives;

4.2.5. hearing to reports of the LAS Members and other scientists on the most important scientific studies, course of development and implementation of national programmes and programmes of national importance, and large projects important for national economy, culture, and education, essentially important foreign scientific visits and their results, as well as examination of any other issues important for Latvia and its science.

4.3. The LAS meeting is chaired by the President of the LAS or a LAS Full Member authorised by the President. Issues are decided at the LAS meetings by a simple majority of votes of the LAS Members present, unless the majority of the participants votes for other agenda. The LAS meeting has the right to adopt recommendations to the Senate, the Presidium, the Board, the President of the LAS and other elected LAS officials, as well as the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia, the President of the State, Government and its structures.

## **Article 5**

### **THE LAS ADMINISTRATION, ELECTED INSTITUTIONS, AND OFFICIALS**

5.1. The highest decision-making body of the LAS is the General Meeting which is attended by the LAS Full Members, Honorary Members, Foreign Members, and Corresponding Members.

5.1.1. Participation in the LAS General Meetings is compulsory for the LAS Full Members and Corresponding Members under the age of 70, unless there are objective reasons for their absence. The General Meeting is competent to start its work and take decisions, provided more than half of Full Members and Corresponding Members under the age of 70 are present, including those who have cast their votes in advance by post.

5.1.2. The General Meeting is chaired by the President of the LAS or the Vice President authorised by the President. Issues are decided at the General Meetings of the LAS by a simple majority of votes of the LAS Members present, except the voting for the amendments to the LAS Statute stipulated



in Paragraph 7.1. The General Meeting decides all personal issues by secret ballot, unless the General Meeting decides on open voting. The LAS Members who cannot participate in the General Meeting may vote on the issues announced on agenda of the General Meeting by post (also in the event of open voting). The form of the voting-paper approved by the LAS Senate should be used for voting by post.

5.1.3. General Meetings of the LAS are convened at least twice a year and are open.

5.1.3.1. The Spring General Meeting (usually in April) hears and approves the annual report of the Secretary General of the LAS on the LAS activities in the previous year, hears the report of the Supervisory Council, re-elects LAS officials on the Senate's recommendation, and examines other issues;

5.1.3.2. The Autumn General Meeting (usually in November) hears the academic lecture, elects new LAS Members, exceptionally elects individual LAS officials on the Senate's recommendation, and examines other issues.

5.1.4. The General Meeting of the LAS elects the following officials: the President, Vice Presidents, the Secretary General of the LAS, the Chairperson of the LAS Fund, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the LAS with authority of the Vice President, and other LAS officials put on the list which is approved by the General Meeting of the LAS. The term of LAS officials is 4 years, and their election to each of the posts may be permitted no more than two consecutive times. Vice Presidents of the LAS, the Chairperson of the LAS Fund, and the Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the LAS are not public officials within the meaning of the Law on Prevention of Conflict of Interest in Activities of Public Officials, unless the order of the President of the LAS stipulate otherwise.

5.2. The LAS Senate as a decision-making body together with the President of the LAS and the Secretary General of the LAS direct the work of the LAS between the General Meetings.

5.2.1. The Senate:

5.2.1.1. regulates the procedures for the LAS management and preservation of its important documents, property, and other valuables, as well as nominates representatives of the LAS for national and international institutions, councils, and commissions;

5.2.1.2. on the basis of recommendations of the LAS meetings and Divisions, takes decisions, including decisions on conferring of the name of the LAS to scientific institutions and organisations associated with the LAS under mutual agreements;

5.2.1.3. provides interpretation of the LAS Charter, Statute, and decisions of its General Meetings.

5.2.2. The following LAS Full Members are included in the LAS Senate according to their positions: the President, Vice Presidents, the Secretary General of the LAS, the Chairperson of the LAS Fund, the LAS officials elected at the General Meeting and the elected (Paragraph 5.7.4) Chairmen of the LAS Divisions of Sciences. By a decision of the General Meeting of the LAS, other Full Members and Corresponding Members, as well as Honorary Members of the Senate from the Full Members are also elected to the Senate. The term of the Senate is 4 years. The Corresponding Members elected to the Senate have the voting rights concerning all the issues, except the issues regarding election of new Members and amendments to the Statute.

5.2.3. Election of the Senate or of individual Members to the Senate takes place during the General Meeting of the LAS. Candidates for Members of the Senate are nominated at the LAS Divisions according to the quotas stipulated by the Senate. Members of the newly elected Senate take the office on the first day of the following month. Until then the Members of the previous Senate fulfil their obligations. The Chairperson of the Senate is elected by the Senate during its previous meeting; the Chairperson of the Senate is a Member of the Presidium. The Senate may accept a notice of resignation from its Members (if they are not able or willing to participate in the work of the Senate for any reason) and is entitled to co-opt new Members by approving their authority in the next regular General Meeting of the LAS.

5.2.4. The Senate is competent to take decisions, provided more than half of the Senate Members with the voting rights are present at the Meeting. Decisions are taken by open voting, unless the Senate has decided otherwise, and a decision is deemed adopted if the majority of the Senate Members present has voted for it; if the vote is a tie, the Chairperson of the Senate has the casting vote, except elections when in case of a tie the choice is made by repeated voting or drawing lots.

5.3. Regular organisational work of the LAS in between General Meetings of the LAS and Meetings of the Senate is carried out by the President of the LAS in cooperation with the Presidium of the LAS which is composed of the LAS officials invited by the President, the Chairperson of the Senate, the Chairperson of the LAS Fund, and an invited person who takes the minutes. The Senate can additionally co-opt or recall persons of the Presidium.

5.3.1. The LAS is managed and represented by the President of the LAS.

5.3.1.1. In the President's absence, one of the Vice Presidents acts for the President.

5.3.1.2. The President is elected for 4 years but not more than two consecutive times; after leaving the post the President of the previous term is traditionally nominated as a Vice President and thus a Member of the Senate and of the Presidium.

5.3.1.3. The President may partly give the President's powers to other elected LAS officials, as well as authorise other LAS Members to represent individual interests of the LAS in Latvia and abroad by informing the Presidium or the Senate about this decision.

5.3.2. Under the leadership of the President, the Presidium of the LAS:

5.3.2.1. proposes that the Senate approves specific directions of activities and responsibility of elected LAS officials (except the members of the Supervisory Council), and defines their concrete operational duties, as well as assigning of separate duties of the LAS officials to other Members of the Senate by specifying their functions;

5.3.2.2. recommends solutions for regular more significant problems of the LAS;

5.3.2.3. proposes agenda for regular and extraordinary General Meetings of the LAS and announces it to the LAS Members;

5.3.2.4. performs regular operational and representative tasks assigned by the President of the LAS, the Senate, or the General Meeting of the LAS.

5.4. Business and organisational activities of the LAS are planned and realised by the Secretary General who is the Chairperson of the Board.

5.4.1. The Secretary General:

5.4.1.1. executes the decisions of the General Meeting, the Senate, and the Presidium of the LAS;

5.4.1.2. coordinates the joint activities of the LAS Divisions (including the LAS meetings) and development of their programmes;

5.4.1.3. controls work of the LAS personnel, including activities of the Managing Department of the LAS and other business structures of the LAS, receives regular reports from them and instructs them to take the measures necessary for optimisation of the work, as well as ensures audit of the LAS financial activity;

5.4.1.4. regularly informs the General Meeting, the Presidium, and the Senate of the LAS about the work done.

5.4.2. The Board of the LAS functions in accordance with the Regulation adopted by the LAS Senate. Members of the LAS Board are elected by the LAS Senate from Chairmen of the Divisions and Full Members. The Secretary General proposes the number of Members of the Board. The Senate elects a Deputy Secretary General (Chairperson of the Board) who performs the duties of the Secretary General in his or her absence. The Senate may include other LAS Full Members and Corresponding Members in the Board, including the elected LAS officials, with the deliberative vote.

5.5. The General Meeting of the LAS elects the Supervisory Council which, in accordance with the Regulation approved by the General Meeting of the LAS,

becomes acquainted with the operation of the LAS and assesses its conformity with the LAS Charter and the Statute, follows the execution of decisions taken by the General Meetings, the Senate, the Presidium, and the Board of the LAS, performs other tasks assigned to it by the General Meeting of the LAS, and supervises election of the LAS officials. The term of the Supervisory Council is 4 years.

5.6. Procedure for election of the LAS officials is as follows:

5.6.1. Only the citizens of the Republic of Latvia may be elected the President, Vice Presidents, the Secretary General, and the Chairperson of the LAS Fund.

5.6.2. The LAS Full Members may be elected the President, Vice Presidents, the Secretary General, the Secretary of Foreign Affairs and the Chairperson of the LAS Division. On the Division's recommendation, the duties of the Chairperson of the Division may also be temporarily fulfilled by a Corresponding Member upon approval of the LAS Senate.

5.6.3. All the LAS officials are elected and recalled at the General Meetings of the LAS under the following procedure:

5.6.3.1. Candidates for the President of the LAS may be nominated from the Full Members by all LAS Members (Full, Honorary, Foreign, and Corresponding Members) and Divisions of the LAS, or commissions formed by them. A nominator or his or her representative should provide motivated characterisation of the nominees in his or her application addressed to the Senate. The application should be submitted to the LAS Senate not later than 30 days before the General Meeting of the LAS, in which the election will take place. A candidate is deemed elected if he or she has received the majority of votes at the General Meeting, but not less than half of the votes cast by the LAS Members present. The elected President traditionally nominates candidates for the posts of Vice Presidents, the Secretary General, and other LAS officials approved at the General Meeting of the LAS. LAS officials are deemed elected if they have received more than half of the votes cast by the LAS Members present.

5.6.3.2. LAS officials may be recalled by the General Meeting of the LAS, if a motivated proposal is made by the LAS Senate or at least 25 Full and/or Corresponding Members (at least 10 Full Members should be among submitters of the proposal). The decision to include the question about recalling of a LAS official in the agenda of the regular or extraordinary General Meeting of the LAS is adopted by the Senate. Such recalling takes effect after the secret ballot of the General Meeting, if the recalling is supported by at least 2/3 of the LAS Members present and the General Meeting takes a decision on the term for election of a new official.

5.6.4. LAS Members who are elected to the posts of the LAS, as well as experts and other scientists who fulfil individual tasks assigned by the Academy, receive remuneration for this work. Remuneration for the elected LAS officials is specified and approved by the LAS Senate.

5.7. In order to promote development of interdisciplinary problems and mutual contacts among representatives of related sciences, the LAS Members join together in Divisions of Sciences. Establishment, basic orientations, and name of the Division are approved by the General Meeting of the LAS.

5.7.1. The Division holds its own meetings or organises meetings of the LAS in order to:

5.7.1.1. develop national programmes, programmes of national importance, and other programmes and to discuss the course of their implementation;

5.7.1.2. solve interdisciplinary scientific problems;

5.7.1.3. hear scientific reports, reviews over scientific studies and activities which have been carried out with the support of the LAS or are topical for the development of the Latvian science, education, national economy, and culture;

5.7.1.4. give recommendations to the LAS and the Chairperson of the Division on necessary activities of the LAS.

5.7.2. Divisions of Sciences form permanent or interim sections, working groups, commissions, and other similar structures within their framework which unite LAS Members and other scientists to carry out concrete programmes, projects, grants and other scientifically topical tasks. Scientific activities of such a structure are managed by a LAS Member whose nomination is approved by the Division. On the LAS Senate's recommendation, the said structures may acquire the rights of a legal entity as scientific institutions by registering the foundation documents under the procedure provided by the law.

5.7.3. To ensure the work of such structures, Divisions of Sciences of the LAS may, in addition to the LAS Members, attract experts from among scientists and specialists. The experts are elected at the meetings of the Divisions.

5.7.4. Each Division elects the Chairperson in secret ballot who is approved by the General Meeting of the LAS in secret ballot. The Chairperson of the Division, or a Member of the Division authorised by him or her participates in all meetings of sections and working groups of the relevant Division, thus promoting exchange of information and its assessment. By decision of the Senate, Chairpersons of the Divisions are assigned authority of the Vice President within the competence of their Divisions.

5.7.5. The Division itself adopts and approves a concrete programme of activities and regulations of the Division in order to achieve the operational objectives and basic orientations of the LAS.

5.8. The LAS may be related to autonomous scientific institutions (legal entities) which, in accordance with Paragraph 5.7.2, are founded under the procedure established by the law, or whose cooperation with the LAS is determined by mutual agreement (agreement of association or other).

5.8.1. The agreement should provide for mutual obligations and forms of cooperation between the LAS and the scientific institution, i.e., the use of the name of the LAS by the associated institution, participation of the LAS in the assessment of the main research directions of this institutions, and representation of interests of the institute of the LAS before the supreme authorities of the Republic of Latvia.

5.8.2. The associated scientific unions and societies referred to in Paragraph 2.1.8, as well as individual groups of scientists may function under the authority of the LAS or its Divisions.

5.9. Museums and scientific collections and archives which require special preservation may be hold or controlled by the LAS.

5.10. The LAS has permanent and temporary personnel, and the list and employment contracts of the relevant personnel are controlled by the Secretary General of the LAS and the Managing Department, a structural unit of the LAS (in accordance with the Regulation of the Managing Department approved by the LAS Senate). The list of the permanent personnel is prepared by the Secretary General of the LAS within the limits of the annual budget estimate approved by the LAS Senate.

## **Article 6**

### **PROPERTY AND RESOURCES OF THE LAS**

6.1. The property of the LAS may constitute land, other real estate, as well as movable property, intellectual property, cash, and securities in Latvia and abroad.

6.1.1. The LAS has in its possession fixed assets and other property, which has been given to it by public institutions, given by legal entities or individuals as a present or which it has acquired as a result of its activities or on other legal basis.

6.1.2. The LAS manages institutions and organisations which are necessary to ensure fulfilment of its functional and operational objectives. The LAS may also manage scientific institutions and organisations which secure functioning of directions of science important for Latvia, as well as functioning of new directions. Procedure for management of such structures is established by the LAS and by agreements signed with the institutions associated with the LAS.

6.2. Core funding necessary for operation of the LAS is subsidised from the State budget.

6.3. Additional budget necessary for operation of the LAS constitutes the resources which are obtained from the following:

6.3.1. contractual works and entrepreneurial activity;

6.3.2. property management;

6.3.3. donations and gifts;

6.3.4. other sources.

6.4. The LAS uses surplus income over expenditure for material and technical development and for formation of its assets. The rules for use of assets are approved by the LAS Senate.

6.5. Management of the LAS property is ensured by the Managing Department of the LAS which, according to Paragraph 5.4 of the Statute, is under the authority of the Secretary General of the LAS and of the Board of the LAS. The Secretary General reports to the LAS Senate about acquisition of additional property and resources.

6.6. The Supervisory Council exercises control over management of the property and use of resources of the LAS in accordance with Paragraph 5.5 of the present Statute.

## **Article 7**

### **PROCEDURE FOR MAKING AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTE**

7.1. Amendments to the Statute may be proposed by the Senate, the Presidium, LAS Divisions, and the General Meeting of the LAS. The Presidium of the LAS forms a commission for aggregation of the submitted proposals by decision of the Senate. After receipt of conclusion of the commission, the LAS Senate takes a decision to refer the submitted amendments to the General Meeting. The LAS Full Members participate in the General Meeting and vote for or against amendments to the LAS Charter, and amendments are adopted, provided more than half of the total number of Members present has supported the relevant amendments.

7.2. Draft amendments to the Statute are put for voting on a motivated initiative of the Senate or 25 Full Members of the LAS. The draft amendments should be submitted to the LAS Members for discussion or announced in the press at least 14 days before voting at the General Meeting.

7.3. Results of the voting are fixed by a polling commission and their correctness is checked by the Supervisory Council of the LAS which draws up a common statement that should be signed by all members of the polling commission, no less than 2/3 of the Members of the Supervisory Council, as well as by the President and the Secretary General of the LAS. The

amendments to the Statute take effect 10 days after signing of the said statement.