



Rules and Procedures for the First Elective Congress of the International Alliance of Waste Pickers

Approved at Acting Working Committee, January 2024

Location: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Dates: From May 1st to May 5th, 2024

Host organization: Federación Argentina de Cartoneros, Carreros y Recicladores - UTEP

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Section I - Respect for All Participants

1. Treat all participants with respect, dignity and equality, regardless of their background, gender, or affiliation.
2. All participants are encouraged to uphold the values and ethics of the International Alliance of Waste Pickers which are embedded in its Constitution, throughout the Congress.
3. Promote cooperation, solidarity, and mutual support among waste pickers and their allies.
4. Maintain a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere throughout the Congress.

Section II - Self-Conduct and Discipline Expectations

5. Maintain a civil and respectful tone during debates and discussions, even when expressing differing opinions.
6. Avoid personal attacks or offensive language when addressing fellow participants.
7. Encourage active listening and constructive dialogue.

8. Personal relationships should not be detrimental or bring negative effects to the Congress development. Personal relationships which compromise the personal integrity of women in their organizational and/or personal lives are unacceptable in the Congress.
9. Use and abuse of mind-altering substances should be avoided during Congress debates, sessions, and elections. Even after hours participants are expected to set an example and not induce substance abuse by those of their colleagues who are not accustomed to.

Section III - Conduct of Congress

10. In the absence of the President of IAWP, the formal Congress proceedings shall be conducted by the Acting General Secretary (AGS) of the IAWP supported by a wastepicker representative as co-chair to be selected by the Acting Working Committee on April 15th.
11. Follow the provided program schedule and adhere to designated start and end times for each session. Congress meetings shall commence at the stipulated time, irrespective of the number of delegates present but respecting the quorum established in accordance with article 7.1.14 of the constitution.
12. Changes in the agenda and the timing of sessions shall require a decision by the Congress.
13. Notify the AGS in advance if any adjustments to the schedule are necessary.
14. Interpretation will be provided for proper communication among participants.

Section IV - Speaking at Congress

15. All participants of the Congress are entitled to speak, but delegates will be given priority.
16. The time limit for a speaker shall be five (5) minutes (excluding interpretation), except for rapporteurs, panel members or presenters which might need more time. Respect the timekeeper's signals to conclude your remarks promptly.
17. Delegates and other participants wishing to speak are requested to raise their hand, holding up their delegates'/guests cards. When given the floor by the Chair they should indicate their name and that of their organization.
18. Delegates and other participants who have raised their hands are entitled to speak more than once on any topic under discussion, but may speak a second time only after all delegates and all guests on the list of speakers have had an opportunity to take the floor. Delegates will be given priority.
19. Points of order may be raised at the end of any speech but may not interrupt a speaker or interpreter.

20. Discussion of any item may be closed when there are no further waste pickers delegates requesting the floor, or on the approval of a motion to close discussion proposed by a delegate or the Chair.
21. The Chair shall call to order any speaker whose input is unrelated to the point under discussion. Should the speaker ignore the warning the Chair will require an immediate end to her/his speech.

Section V - Respect for Committees and Elected President of the Congress

22. Show respect for the committees that have been previously agreed upon by the AWC and their Terms of Reference (ToR). Committees shall be: 1) Credentials Committee, 3) Independent Electoral Commission, 4) Resolutions Committee (and, if needed, Constitution amendments) 5) Complaints committee (*for disputes resolutions, any disputes or disagreements should be addressed through this channel to ensure disputes are resolved in a manner that upholds the principles of fairness and respect*).
23. Committees play a crucial role in the effective functioning of the Congress.
 - a. Recognize and support the decisions and recommendations made by these committees in accordance with their ToR.
 - b. Show respect for the AGS and the WP co-chair, in the absence of the elected President of the Congress. This role is responsible for maintaining order and facilitating discussions during the event.
 - c. Follow the guidance and directions provided by the AGS and the WP co-chair to ensure the orderly conduct of proceedings.

Section VI - Compliance and Sanctions

24. Failure to comply with these rules and procedures may result in warnings, temporary suspension, or expulsion from the Congress, depending on the severity of the violation.

These rules and procedures are established to create a safe and respectful environment for all participants during the First Elective Congress of the International Alliance of Waste Pickers to be held in Buenos Aires, Argentina in April 2024. The cooperation in upholding these guidelines is essential to the success of this important event for the history of the International Alliance of Waste Pickers.