

Australasia & Pacific Region

IOI Rules

Whereas a number of Countries, States and Territories in the Australasian and Pacific Region have appointed Ombudsman as statutory officers investigating matters of maladministration by government organisations and officials.

AND WHEREAS these Ombudsman undertake their duties according to legislative powers of similar kind

AND WHEREAS in 1996 the worldwide body of Ombudsman, the International Ombudsman Institute (the Institute) determined upon creating formal regional groupings

AND WHEREAS meetings of the Regional Ombudsman have occurred in various Australasian and Pacific venues for a period of twenty years

AND WHEREAS the Institute By-Laws establish the Australasian and Pacific Region of the Institute (the Region)

NOW THEREFORE this document records the Rules for the operation of the Region and the election of three directors including a Regional Vice President of the Institute, adopted by the Ombudsman of the Region at their meeting in Darwin, Australia, on 20 August 1997.

1. The members of the Region shall be those Ombudsman of the Region who shall be admitted to membership of the Region by the Institute.
2. The organisation of the Region's affairs shall be the responsibility of the Directors of the Institute elected to represent the Region from time to time. The Directors shall by agreement between them determine their own procedures. The Director elected as Regional Vice President under clause 6 shall act as Chairperson of the Directors.
3. The Regional Vice President shall act as Chairman of meetings of Members of the Region dealing with Institute matters.
4. The Directors may determine what regional initiatives should be undertaken subject to their first ascertaining the views of members of the Region by such means as the Directors consider to be most appropriate in the circumstances.
5. The Directors shall arrange an annual conference of Members of the Region to be held on a basis of fair rotation between Members willing and able to host such a conference. When an Institute conference is held, the Regional Conference of Members shall be held as part of the Institute Conference.

6. The Members shall at each Regional Meeting held as part of the Institute Conference, elect the number of Directors, and the Regional Vice President to which the Region is entitled by virtue of the By-Laws of the Institute. The method of election shall be on the basis of one member one vote of those present at the meeting and voting. Any vacancies caused by the death, resignation or retirement of a Director shall be filled at the next Regional Meeting of Members.
7. A Director shall resign his/her office as a Director on vacating office as an Ombudsman.
8. The Directors may make such rules as are necessary to ensure the smooth functioning and operation of the Region as are not inconsistent with any preceding rules of any By-Laws of the Institute.
9. The members may by a majority, in writing, alter, amend or add to these Rules at any time and from time to time.

Adopted at Darwin APOR Conference
Australia, September 1997