



UARctic Assembly Meeting / Quebec City, Canada / May 2023

## **Agenda item: 11**

### **Proposal – Approval of Amendments of the Constitution**

**Proposal:** The Executive Committee (Toyon) proposes that the Assembly make the following decisions:

*The Assembly approves the amendments of the UArctic Constitution as presented.*

**References:** [UARctic Constitution](#) / Article 11 – Amendments of the Constitution and dissolution of the Association

[UARctic Constitution – Amendments 2023](#)

#### **Rationale:**

UARctic Constitution, 11 Article – Amendments of the Constitution and dissolution of the association

*Any decision to amend this Constitution or to dissolve the association must be taken during the Assembly of the association, where the decision is passed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote. A notice of an Assembly must state all proposed Constitution amendments or the dissolution of the association.*

#### **Background:**

The Finnish Associations Act has been amended in February 2023, and it is proposed that the amendments will be made to the UArctic constitution according to the new law. In addition, two more amendments are proposed. The proposed changes are marked in the version linked above with red colour. The proposed amendments are the following:

5 Article – Governance and administration: As the Board Chair will be elected by the Assembly separately from the Board Members (previously, before the UArctic association was established, the Chair was elected by the Board from the members of the Board), it is important to define the possible terms of service of the Board Chair separately from the Board members. The proposal is that the Board Chair would be eligible for three consecutive terms, comparable to Board Officers who can serve maximum three terms.

In addition, it is proposed that the incumbent Chair of the Assembly would have the right to be present in the meetings of the Board, instead of the Chair of the previous Assembly meeting.

8 Article – Association Assemblies: Amendment to allow organizing the Assembly meetings fully online. The previous wording allowed only physical or hybrid. This is in line with the recent amendment to Finnish Associations Act.

9 Article – Convening Assembly: The amendment is to clarify the need of informing the members about the format of the Assembly meeting and how the members can participate.