



STATUTES OF NORDIC ASSOCIATION FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION (Abbreviation: GI Norden)

§ 1 NAME AND FORMALITIES

Name of the Association: **Nordic Association for Geographic Information.**
Abbreviation: **GI Norden.**

The Association is established and organised in Norway and is run according to Norwegian law.

GI Norden is registered in Central Coordinating Register for Legal Entities in Norway as an ideal organisation with number 989 836 005.

The secretariat of the organisation is run according to an agreement with GI Norden.

§ 2 PURPOSE

The Association shall on Nordic basis work for the social benefit of the subject area.

The Association has the following purpose;

- contribute to increased use of geographic information in the Nordic countries,
- promote the understanding of the importance for the society of geographic information and geographic information technology,
- work for the development of strong national GI associations in all the Nordic countries,
- contribute to the development of a national infrastructure of GI in the Nordic countries,
- promote Nordic viewpoints concerning the global infrastructure of GI,
- coordinate Nordic initiatives,
- secure the dissemination of information and novelties between the member organisations and their members,
- develop competence, reputation and use of the subject area through joint initiatives and working groups,

- maximise the effective use of geographic information for the benefit of the citizen, good governance and commerce in the Nordic countries,
- represent the views of the geographic information community,
- promote, stimulate, encourage and support the development and use of geographic information and technology, and
- the execution of anything that is connected with or that may attribute to the aforementioned, in the broadest sense.

The Association shall contribute to the utilisation of competence, technology and technical skills of the subject area within;

- planning and development of our physical environment,
- development of our environment within accepted frames of health, environment and security,
- management of our natural resources and areas for the purpose of sustainable development,
- registration of real estate as a part of establishing clear legal positions or conditions for the right of ownership, and
- running of systems with relevant information connected to sales of real estate.

§ 3 ACTIVITIES

The goals of GI Norden are achieved by;

- promoting activities that are concurrent to the purpose of the association,
- strengthening professional competence and personal development of the actors through;
 - organising Nordic events in cooperation with the national GI associations, such as seminars, workshops and conferences,
 - contributing to and/or organising lectures, courses, exhibitions and study visits,
 - monitoring and informing about research and development taking place within the field of GI,
- authority to GI Norden to represent members in international organisations, e.g. EUROGI,
- supporting coordination of standardisation and other thematic work in the Nordic region within the field of GI,
- furthering Nordic coordination and cooperation by establishing working groups and networks,
- encouraging development within the subject area through;
 - scholarship awards according to approved statutes,
 - an award of honour according to approved statutes,
 - initiating and supporting development and research within the subject area.

§ 4 MEMBERS

Members are the national GI associations in the Nordic countries:

GeoForum
Geoforum Danmark
ProGIS
LISA
ULI Geoforum

NORWAY
DENMARK
FINLAND
ICELAND
SWEDEN

Other countries with connection to the Nordic cooperation may be admitted as members according to the provisions in § 11 and previous changes of the statutes according to § 12.

§ 5 THE BOARD

The issues of GI Norden are handled by a board consisting of:

- President.
- Vice-president.
- Secretary.
- Treasurer.
- Additional six board members.

Each of the member countries is represented by two representatives on the board.

At least one of the board members from each country shall be a board member of the national member organisation or belong to the secretariat of the national member organisation.

Board members are appointed for two years by each national member organisation in such a way that they retire from the board every other year. Board members can be reappointed.

The positions as president and secretary are rotated between the countries every two years at the time.

The board establishes its own rules of procedure.

The board discusses and adopts annual working plans and budgets.

The board submits for discussion the annual meeting matters mentioned in § 7 Annual meeting.

The board appoints a Working Committee within the board and may liaise with necessary expertise.

The board assembles after summons by the president at least once every year and if agreed to by at least three board members. The board is quorate when all the member countries are represented. The board members can meet by authority from other board members of the board, i.e. the board member can have two votes.

The president represents GI Norden, chairs the board meetings and sees to it that decisions are carried into effect. If equal votes at voting on board issues, the matter will be settled by the president's casting vote. The secretary takes the minutes of the board meetings.

§ 6 OBSERVERS

One representative of other GI organisation within the Nordic Region may participate at the board meetings. Such observers shall be appointed by a GI organisation in the country concerned and be designated by GI Norden as observer to either a specific board meeting or for a specific time.

Observers have the right to speak and make proposals, but not the right to vote.

Other countries with links to GI Norden cooperation may be admitted as observers according to the rules in § 11 and previous changes of the statutes according to § 12.

§ 7 ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting constitutes of two representatives appointed by each of the member organisations.

The annual meeting shall be held annually within the end of June and handle the following issues:

1. The validity of the annual meeting.
2. Election of chair and secretary of the meeting.
3. The board's annual report with accounts for the previous year.
4. Report of the auditors.
5. Approval of discharge from liability for the board.
6. The board's proposal for the admission of members and observers.
7. Proposals from the members.
8. The board's approved annual programme for the present year, as well as an indication of the work for the coming year.
9. The board's approved budget for the present year, as well as an indication of the work for the coming year.
10. Election of president, vice-president, secretary and treasurer.
11. Election of auditors.

§ 8 EXTRAORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING

An extraordinary annual meeting may be held after decision by the board, or when board members from at least three member organisations request it in writing. The summons shall state the reason for the extraordinary annual meeting and the agenda.

§ 9 SUMMONS FOR THE ANNUAL MEETINGS

The summons for the annual meeting and extraordinary annual meeting with supporting documents shall be sent the members at the latest 4 weeks before the meeting.

§ 10 DECISIONS

With the exception of amendments of the statutes (§ 12) and dissolution of the Association (§ 14), all decisions by the annual meeting are made with a simple majority.

§ 11 ADMISSION OF MEMBERS AND OBSERVERS

Admission of new GI associations as members or observers is carried out when at least all but one of the member organisations give their acceptance on the annual meeting. Admission of new members or observers requires concurrent amendment of the statutes according to § 12.

§ 12 AMENDMENTS OF THE STATUTES

Changes of the statutes requires consensus by the members and their written acceptance. However, amendments of the statutes concerning admission of new members and observers require acceptance by at least all minus one of the member organisations.

§ 13 RESIGNATION

A member may resign from GI Norden by sending a written resignation to the president of GI Norden and to all the member organisations at the latest 8 weeks before the annual meeting. The membership ceases as of January 1st the year after the resignation. GI Norden provides short written information about the resignation to joint partners and the organisations where GI Norden is represented.

§ 14 DISSOLUTION OF THE ASSOCIATION

Decision concerning dissolution of GI Norden requires acceptance from at least all minus two of the members on an annual meeting and written confirmation about the decision on the next annual meeting from the same national member organisations.

In case of dissolution of GI Norden the assets of the organisation shall be equally divided between the member organisations.

Annex 1.

The members and their present addresses:

GeoForum	Kvernberggata 5	N-3510 Hønefoss	NORWAY
Geoforum Danmark	Kalvebod Brygge 31-33	DK-1780 København V	DENMARK
ProGIS	PL84	FIN-00521 Helsinki	FINLAND
LISA	Laugavegi 166	IS-105 Reykjavik	ICELAND
ULI Geoforum	Box 415	SE-101 28 Stockholm	SWEDEN