Background materials for Applications for membership 2012

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Applications for membership

Palestine

Palestine Academy for Science and Technology (PALAST)

PALAST
Palestine Academy for Science and Technology

http://www.palestineacademy.ps

Organizational Background

Palestine Academy for Science and Technology was established first in 1992 as the Academy of Research and in 1997 it was renamed as Palestine Academy for Science and Technology (PALAST) and opened its office in Ramallah in 1998 and in Gaza 1999 and later in 2004, PALAST has opened its office in east Jerusalem. PALAST is considered as an independent, not-for-profit organization that was affirmed in the presidential decree No. 13/2004 which mandated PALAST to be the primary science and technology body in the "Palestine" in charge of providing advice in formulating policies, programs and projects to support national development and participating in the coordination of relevant scientific and technological (S&T) activities

Mission Statement:

PALAST aims at institutionalizing scientific and technological research in Palestine, **promoting** scientific discovery and innovative technological advances, in addition to **fostering** the use of science and technology in various domains. Furthermore, it aspires to obtain a fundamental role in coordinating scientific efforts between the private and the public sectors in order to **encourage** a strong national economy that is globally competitive through the support of the Palestinian science and technology base and partnerships with governmental, non-governmental, local and international bodies.

Cooperation Relationships and PALAST Membership

PALAST's successes since its establishment until today to sustain good work in many activities it has initiated and implemented on the national level, on bilateral or multilateral level, is reflected in the trust and respect it has gained on both national and international dimensions. On the international level, the Palestine Academy became active member in several respected consortiums:

- The Inter Academy Panel on International Issues (IAP)
- The Inter Academy Medical Panel (IAMP)
- The Human Rights Network of Academies and Scholarly Societies
- The Network of Academies of Sciences in the OIC Countries (NASIC)
- The Consortium of Science, Technology and Innovation for the South (COSTIS)
- The Euro Mediterranean Academic Network (EMAN)

PALAST STI programs are directed mainly towards teaming up with relevant governmental institutions and other science organizations in Palestine for the sake of advancing the role of STI in achieving the Palestinian sustainable development. Below is a list of currently pursued programs and activities:

- Enhancing Academic-Industrial Partnership Initiative in cooperation with *Ministry of Economy* and *Ministry of Education and Higher Education*
- Palestine Academy has signed a partnership agreement with the "European Commission", for the implementation of several research projects (SMITE, MED-IST, JOIN-MED), These projects involves participants from two ***European countries (Greece and Germany), and seven MEDA countries (Egypt, Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, Palestine, Lebanon and Syria***)
- Enhancing the role of Information Technology in scientific research and economy development in cooperation with ***Ministry of Telecommunication and Information Technology*** **and with** ***Palestinian Information Technology Association of Companies (PITA),***
- Establishing the Science, Technology, and Innovation Observatory (STIO) in cooperation with ***ESCWA,*** The STIO is established in the framework cooperation with ***the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)*** of the United Nations, and endorsed by *the ministerial cabinet*, it is meant to be a node in the network of west Asia that have been established in the West Asian countries and connected to the STIO hob which is established by ESCWA headquarters in Beirut, Lebanon.

  The Observatory is hosted at the Palestine Academy for Science and Technology and is going to work cooperatively with other national institutions.

  Main functions of the STIO

  - Collect data on science, technology and innovation on a regular basis.
  - Data analysis and generating indicators that are of international standard
  - Produce leaflets of sciences and technology innovation development

- Establishing a databases for Palestinian scientists, experts and researchers in Palestine in the framework of Palestinian Scientists and Experts Database (PSEDB). This effort is also conducted in cooperation with all ***Palestinian universities and scientific organization.***
- Enhancing the role of Palestinian Scientists and Experts in Diaspora that will enable networking among them from one hand and between them and Palestinian institutions seeking expertise, in cooperation with ***All European Academies (ALLEA), US-NAS, and other Palestinianin diaspora.***
- Assessing Innovation in several industrial companies by using community innovation survey (CIS) in cooperation with ***Ministry of Economy, Palestinian Federation of Industries,*** **and** ***Palestinian companies*** **.**
- Signing a protocol with ***Istanbul Technical University*** in turkey for scientific cooperation, libraries resources, Ph. D. Scholarship program, in cooperation with all ***Palestinian Universities.***
- Implementing a health program in cooperation with the ***Italian organization Un Punto Macrobiotico (UPM)*** and the ***Palestinian Ministry of Health*** on the use of organic food to treat diabetes (type 2).
  In addition to other programs and activities (more details http://www.palestineacademy.org)

Short history:

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Palestine Liberation Organization
Palestine National Authority

منظمة التحرير الفلسطينية
السلطة الوطنية الفلسطينية

Office of the President

مكتب الرئيس

Presidential Decree
Concerning Palestine Academy for Science and Technology

Number (5) Year 2004

The President of the State of Palestine
The President of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization
The Present of Palestine National Authority

And according to the authority given to us,
And for the sake of the public interest,

We have decreed the following:

Article (1)

First: Considering Palestine Academy for Science and Technology as a Presidential Institution, public, non-governmental, and administratively and financially independent institution.

Second: The headquarter of Palestine Academy of Science and Technology is in Jerusalem and it has the right to establish other branches in Palestine.

Third: the Palestine Academy works on the following *[Objectives]*:

1- Develop, coordinate and promote fields of Science, Technology, Scientific Research and Publication and consequently participate in developing the associated national policies and strategies based on the national interests' needs.
2- Promote and coordinate science, culture and innovation in the Palestinian society through proposing bases and standards for scientific research and supporting directive research and through scientific activities, conferences, directive seminars and through establishing specialized science and technology centers and parks and through the acknowledgment of

PALAST

distinguished Palestinian participation in the different fields of science and technology by awarding them distinguished awards.

3- Develop science and technology services and tools such as national data and network bases that fulfill relevant institutions' needs in science fields and researchers in addition to participating in networking between national and relevant international institutions.
4- Provide science and technology advices to the government, the legislative council, universities, research institutions and the non-governmental institutions in addition to the funding agencies and international institutions.

Four: Assigning Dr. Fathi Arafat the president of Palestine Academy for Science and Technology.

Five: Palestine Academy for Science and Technology has the right to put its binding bylaws and all other laws that govern it work in ways that guarantee its independent and efficient.

Article (2)

All relevant bodies, each in its specialty should implement this decree and work accordingly from the date of issuing it and it is to be published in the official journal.

Issued in Ramallah City on: 13/08/2004

Yasser Arafat
[Signature]

President of the State of Palestine
President of the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization
President of the Palestine National Authority.

PALAST
Promoting Science & Technology

Basic Bylaw

Of

Palestinian Academy for Sciences and Technology

The Ministry of Justice تصادق وزارة العدل
certifies the seal and signature على ختم وتوقيع
of licensed translator المترجم المرخص
Waeud Al Hafi
26-1-2005
294/2005 رقم التصديق
الدكتور عبد الكريم

Licensed Translator مترجم مرخص
By Ministry of Justice من وزارة العدل
Name: Waeud Alhafi الاسم: وعود الحافي
License No: 4/2004 رقم الرخصة:

Chapter One

Identification of Academy

Article (1):

Palestinian Academy for Sciences and Technology is the new name of the Scientific Research Academy. It was established in 1992 as one of the institutions of the Palestinian Liberation Organization (PLO) A Presidential Decree was issued by the President of the Executive Committee of the PLO and the President of the State of Palestine (Number 117 in 1997) for the appointment of Dr. Fathi Arafat as its President . The Presidential Decree was renewed on 18/8/2004 by the President of the State of Palestine considering the Academy as one of the Presidential institutions that has a general recognized character is administratively and financially independent , and is entitled to draw up its basic bylaw and the rules which govern its actions in a way that guarantees its independence and efficiency.

Article (2):

The permanent Headquarters of PAST is in Jerusalem and it can open any other branches it wishes for in Palestine.

Article (3):

The Palestinian Academy for Sciences and Technology enjoys the general recognized character in its capacity as an independent , general Palestinian Corp of a scientific , technological feature It was established according to a Presidential Decree It is committed to work for realizing and embodying the aims and objectives that are decided for it in accordance with the rules and principles of this Bylaw.

The Academy (as a general Corp) enjoys financial and administrative independence . It has its special budget , independent regulations , agendas and instructions .

The Academy enjoys the exemptions ,facilities , other advantages and rights that are decided in accordance with the Palestinian laws for the general , recognized characters.

The Academy organizes (in accordance with its regulation , and internal bylaw) its administrative structure . It decides salaries , wages , allowances , leaves the procedures of appointing the workers and their rights and commitments.

Chapter Two

Objects of the Palestinian Academy for Sciences and Technology

Article (4):

The PAST seeks to realize and accomplish the following aims :-

1- To develop , co-ordinate , and reinforce the areas of sciences , technology , scientific research , and publication and what is due upon it is to participate in the development of the national policies and strategies as required by the national interest.

2- To provide advice in the areas of Sciences ,Technology , to the Government , Parliament , Universities , Research Institutes , and the National Organizations , in Palestine . It is also to finance bodies and international organizations .

3- To work for the co-ordination , reinforcement , and the activitation of the role of the institutions that are engaged in the targeted , basic , strategic , applied researches . It is to contribute to administrative , Scientific and information services.

4- To participate in the development of the Scientific , Technological programs that are directed to the building and strengthening of the national capacities .The purpose is to develop the human resources

5- To Recognize the outstanding Palestinian participations in the various scientific and technological areas . It will honor them through awarding appreciation prizes .

6- To reinforce the various areas of sciences and technology through the conferences , seminars , workshops, and the scientific meeting.

7- To reinforce the role of sciences, culture, and creativity in the Palestinian Society through reinforcing scientific publication of the various general subjects.

8- To offer the financial support to the researches, programs, services, the scientific and technological activities. It will try to realize the aims of the national policy in these areas.

9- To develop interest in the Palestinian environment and to participate in supporting the official and community efforts to preserve it.

10- To establish rules and national information networks based on information , technology systems. It will try to meet the needs of researchers , teachers , employers , students , and the Public.

11- To participate in establishing co-operative projects between the national scientific institutions and their regional, world counterparts.

12- To work for activating , reinforcing the integration, and national partnership in the areas of research , technological and regional levels.

13- To represent Palestine in the international , regional conventions , and the world conferences that are related to Sciences and technology.

14- To participate in establishing specialized , Scientific , developmental centers , scientific and technological museums.

Article (5):

The Academy Methods:

In the realization and accomplishment of its aims, the Academy depends on the following means:

- Participation in establishing specialized, Scientific, technological developmental, and research centers.

- Holding conferences, seminars, scientific forums that are aimed at the support and activation of the academy objectives.
- Organizing visits , periodic meetings between the Palestinian institutions ,centers of Scientific and technological researches of the international, regional institutions of similar specialization.
- To publish the Scientific studies reports and to issue Palestinian periodical concerned with Scientific and technological affairs.
- To inform the Palestinian Society in a regular, periodic manner of the new potentialities of the scientific progress in the world, and to propose the means that can ensure their use at the national level.
- To hold training courses for Scientists and technologists.
- To develop the human resources in the areas of research, culture, and creativity.
- To send scientific missions.
- To exchange scientific and technological expertise between the Academy and institutions of similar activity at the international , regional levels.
- To join world , related associations and institutions.
- To participate in drawing up and developing the Palestinian Legislatives Set that organizes the various areas of Sciences and technology in Palestine.

Chapter Three

Membership

Article (8): The Membership of the Palestinian Academy for Sciences and Technology is divided into an Active Membership and an Honorary Membership :

1-The Active Membership:

- It is the Membership which the Executive Council of the Academy grants to each Palestinian Scientist or technologist who accepts the commitment to the aims and principles of the Academy that are decided in accordance with its Bylaws , and internal agendas.

- Everyone who acquires the Active Membership of PAST enjoys the Membership of the General Assembly of the Academy.

2- ***The Honorary Membership :***

-It is the Membership which the academy grants (regardless of the Nationality) to each normal or recognized person . It is services should have the effect and the distinguished role in realizing, the aims and objectives of the Academy or in the development , promotion of the Palestinian Society in the Sciences and Technology areas.

- The Honorary Membership is granted by a decision of the President of the Palestinian Academy for sciences and Technology . The recommendation should be issued by the Executive Council of the Academy.

Article (9) : Membership Conditions .

1) Upon a recommendation issued by the Membership Committee , the President of the Council of the Academy grants the Active Membership to any active Scientist or technologist who possesses The following conditions:

- To have Palestinian Nationality .
- To be one of the scientists or technologists according to the approved and adopted classification in accordance with the Bylaw of The Palestinian Academy For Sciences and Technology.
- To be one of the experts or the academics who have obtained high scientific degrees in the areas of Sciences and technology.
- To be aged (25) years.

Not to have been convicted of a crime or offence.

- To be committed to the aims and principles of the Academy that are stated in the rules of this Bylaw.

2) The Membership Committee makes its recommendation (Concerning the granting of the active Membership to whom it considers that the Active Membership conditions apply) to the Secretary General.

3) The Academy Secretary General shall submit the application (when it fulfils the conditions stated in this Bylaw) to the Academy Executive Council within (30) days pursuant to receiving the application.

4) The Resolution of the Academy Executive Council concerning the Membership application is issued when it meets the conditions that are specified and stated in the Academy Bylaw during its first convention after the date of the submission of the membership application by the General Secretary.

5) In case the Executive Council of the Academy rejects the Membership applications, the Membership Committee has the right to appeal on the Council decision to the Academy General Assembly.

6) The Appeal application is submitted in writing to the Secretary General at least one month before the convention of the first ordinary meeting of the Academy General Assembly.

7) The member shall pay an annual subscription fee which is decided for membership . It amounts to (50) Jordanian Dinars or the equivalent in the currency circulated in Palestine, In all cases the annual subscription fee shall be paid before 31st December of the year.

Article (10) : Expiry and Removal of Membership

A. **Membership of the Academy is terminated in the following cases and circumstances :**

1) Voluntary withdrawal from Academy.

2) Not possessing one of the Membership conditions stated in this Bylaw.

3) Not paying the annual subscription fee on due time , and in this case The Secretary General shall warn the member who has not paid his annual subscription fee by registered letter.

4) The Academy Executive Council shall not decide on the membership of any member who has been warned . Elapsed Three months should have since the warning date related to the member's payment of his financial commitments.

5) Death.

6) Dismissal from the Academy:

- A member is dismissed by decision taken by The Academy Executive Council with the approval of the majority of the voting members .This occurs in the following situations:

- The committing of the Academy member of any action implying an essential violation of the aims and objectives of the Academy.

- The Committing of The Academy member of an action or practice which affects the Academy and its reputation.

- The member (against whom a dismissal decision is taken) is informed in writing of the decision.

- The member who was informed in writing of the dismissal decision has the right to appeal on the decision at the Academy General Assembly . He is submits a written application to the Secretary General at least one month before the holding of the first ordinary meeting of the General Assembly.

B. The membership of the Palestinian Academy For Sciences and Technology is removed from any member who lost the job or scientific description on which he had acquired the membership of the General Assembly.

Article (11): Membership Restoration.

- The Academy Executive Council is entitled to restore the membership to the member (from whom the membership has been removed due to not paying the financial subscription) following his payment of all sums due upon him.

Chapter Four

Academy Corp

Article (12): The Palestinian Academy consists of the following corps :

1) The Academy General Assembly
2) The Academy Executive Council
3) The President
4) The Secretary General

Article (13) :

1-The Academy General Assembly.

A. The Academy General Assembly is the General Corp at the level of the Academy basic Reference to its corp., administrative formations and all the committees stemming from this corp.

B. The Academy General Assembly performs its work and authority according to what is specified to it in accordance with the rules of this Bylaw.

2-Formation of the Academy General Assembly from :

- President of the Palestinian , Academy For Sciences and Technology .
- The Secretary General of the Palestinian Academy for Sciences and Technology.
- The one among the scientists and technologists who acquired the Active Membership of the Palestinian Academy for Sciences and Technology.

- Ministers of Education and Higher Education , Health , Industry , Environment , Economy , Planning , Natural Resources and Energy or their deputies ,. Presidents of the recognized Scientific Technological universities and institutes .
- Officers of Unions of the Scientific and Technological features.
- The Secretary General of the Higher Education Council.

3- The General Assembly of the Palestinian Academy holds its general meeting once every year , and can be convened whenever the need arises.

4- In case more than half the numbers of the Academy members request the holding of an extra ordinary session , the Academy President summons the General Assembly at the Academy Headquarters or in any other place to be specified by the President for this purpose . This is to be follow after informing all the General Assembly members by written notice sent by the Secretary General to all Assembly members who have the right to attend . This must happens at least a fortnight before the date of holding the meeting , In these cases the meeting notice sent to the members shall be attached to the meeting agenda and a list of the members who have the right of attendance.

5- The meeting of the Academy General Assembly will be legal when 51% of members attend it . But in case the legal quorum is incomplete , the meeting to be held by a second summon for the same purpose will be legal by the number of the attending members provided the number of the attendants is not less than one-third of the Assembly members . The Second meeting is held after the elapse of at least a for night after following the date of holding the former meeting.

6- The General Assembly in its annual meeting debates the following matters :-

- Approval of the Academy General Policy .
- Approval of the annual report of the Academy future activities and plans.
- Approval of the report of the Academy President about the various Academy works and activities.
- Appointment an auditor for the Academy Accounts upon a nomination from the Executive Council of the Academy.
- Electing members of the Membership Committee from among the Active members.
- Approval of the Academy Budget for The Fiscal year.
- Endorsement of the Conclusion Accounts.
- Approval of granting the badges and medals.
- Debating the Appeal applications presented by the members.

7- The decisions of the General Assembly are issued by absolute majority and that is by raising hands. It the votes are equal , the side including the President's vote shall win.

8- The resolutions of the General Assembly are recorded in a special record specified for its sessions proceedings .It is signed by the President and the Secretary , and the names of the Assembly members participating in the session mentioned , The taken decisions and the number of votes are recorded for each session.

Article (14) : The Academy Executive Council .

1- The Academy Executive Council is the Supreme corp. of the Academy.

2- The Academy Executive Council practices its work and authority according to what is specified to it in the rules of this Bylaw.

3- The Academy Executive Council is formed from :-

A- The Academy President as its President .

B- The Academy Secretary General is the Council Secretary.

C- Eight Scientists are elected by all Scientists enjoying the active membership positions in the Academy provided (in electing them) that the necessity of electing only one is observed in each branch of the recognized branches of the Academy.

D- Two members to represent the Univerties and Institutes Presidents provided they are elected by all presidents of the Palestinian Universities and institutes which are represented in the Academy General Assembly.

E- A member to represent the Scientific, technological unions provided he is elected by all presidents of scientific, technological unions which are represented in the Academy General Assembly.

F- A member to represent the various ministries to be elected by the ministers or their deputies.

4- The members of the Academy Executive Council are re-elected according to what is stated in this Bylaw in rotation every three years. Whereas in necessity and emergency , the Executive Council may continue to work after the expiration of the legal term specified for its termination . Also in this situation n these, the members of the Executive Council are re-elected during the next six months following the ending of these circumstances.

5- In case of the President's resignation or his illness or his unjustified absence, the members of the Academy Executive Council elect from among themselves one of the elected members to perform the tasks of the President temporarily.

6- The Academy Executive Council holds its meeting at least once every four months . The legal quorum is complete by the attendance of the major members . Its decisions are issued by the majority of the attendants , and in case the votes are equal , the voting including the president shall win.

The members of the Academy Executive Council elect (from among the elected members of the Executive Council)a tripartite committee for supervision over the Academy funds and the ways of spending them.

The Executive Council practices the following authorities and tasks :-

Deciding on the membership of Scientists and technologists presented to the .

Proposal of granting the Honorary Membership.

- Proposal of the Academy General Scientific Policy

- Formation of a Scientific arbitration committee to decide The Scientific researches and studies.

- Supervision over the Academy publications and periodical .

- Setting the proposals of the mechanisms related to activation of the Scientific research.

- Setting the proposals related to management of the National Sciences Fund.

- Setting the proposals of activating the financing of the National Sciences Fund.

- Approval of creation and formation of the provisional and permanent committees.

- Approval of the Internal Bylaws related to the salaries and allowances system for the Academy workers.

- Approval of the duty and leaves regulations.

8- If the position of an elected Scientist becomes vacant, the member with the greatest votes (after the scientists elected in the last election meeting) shall become a member of the Academy Executive

Council. In case the vacancies are more than three, then the total number of Active Members are summoned for holding a meeting specialized for electing new members for the vacant positions.

9- If a position of a member of the universities or institutes or unions (who is elected by the General Assembly) becomes vacant, the university president or the unionist obtaining the greatest votes (after the elected presidents and unionists in the last meeting) shall become a member of the Academy Executive Council as the will be successor of the member whose position became vacant.

10 – When a position of a member of the Academy Executive member becomes vacant during its term for any reason, the General Secretary shall send a written notice to the Academy General Assembly.

Three months pursuant to the date of the vacant position , in the name of the member whose position became vacant and the member who was elected to fill the vacant position.

11- The member of the Academy Executive Council shall not be absent from attending the meeting of the Council except by an acceptable excuse . In case of absence from three consecutive meetings without an excuse or for consecutive meetings with an excuse , the member of the Executive Council shall lose his position.

12- It is not allowed to combine the membership of the Academy Executive Council and the membership of the Committee membership.

Article (15) : Academy President :-

- The President of the Palestinian Academy For Sciences and Technology is the President of the Academy Executive Council.

The Academy President is appointed by decision of the President of the State,

- The President of the Palestinian Academy for sciences and technology practices the following tasks and authorities :

- He heads the meeting of the General Assembly and manages the debates in it.

- He heads the meetings of the Executive Council and manages the debates in it.

- To represent the Academy at the local and international levels.

- Following up the work of the Academy and the committees stemming from it.

- Appointment of the workers in the Academy by recommendation from the Secretary General.

- Concluding the international and local agreements that are related to the Academy.

- Supervision over all the financial dealings related to the Academy and endorsing the different aspects of expenditure.

- To delegate the Academy envoys to international , scientific conferences , Seminars and visits.

- Approval of financial rewards for committee members.

Article (16) : Authorities of the Secretary General :

- The Secretary General of the Academy is the Executive Director of the Academy and the Secretary General of the Executive Council.

- The Academy Secretary General is appointed by decision of the President of State upon a recommendation from the Academy President.

- The Academy Secretary General practices the following tasks and authorities :-

- The Academy Secretary General Sets the Scientific plans within the bounds of the decided general policy by the General Assembly and supervises its execution.

- To supply the Academy President and the Executive Council with rotation reports about the progress of the Academy work.

- Supervision over the administrative work and following up itts regularity.

- Nomination of Academy envoys to the scientific, international conferences , seminars , and visits.

- Co-ordination between the administrations of the Academy and the different work committees.

- Practice of what works he is authorized to perform by the Academy President.

- Proposal of the rewards substitutes that are allocated to committee members.

- Writing the invitations related to the General Assembly and informing the Assembly members at least two weeks about the date and place of holding it.

- Preparation of the Executive Council Meeting Agenda.

- Recording the decisions and proceedings of the Executive Council.

- Keeping the Academy Records , all the documents the Seals and all the Contracts connected with the Academy in the Academy Headquarters.

- Participation in the annual report preparation about the Academy activities.

Academy Revenues and ways of Utilizing and Dispensing them

Article (17): Academy Revenues.

The Financial Revenues of the Academy Consist of the following sources:

-The sums presented by the Authority.
- Annual Subscriptions Fees of Members.
- Unconditional International and Local Donations and Gifts.
- Grants.
- Wills.

Article (18) : Management of Academy Funds.

- The Fiscal years of the Academy being on the First of January and ends one the last day of December.

- The Academy has an independent annual budget and has a conclusion account in which it adopts the decided procedural rules for the State Budget and its conclusion Account.

- The Palestinian Academy manages its Funds by itself.

- The Academy Funds and all its own the documents in local banking institutions.

- In order to withdraw any money amount of the Academy that is deposited in the banks, the withdrawal cheque shall be signed by the President and Secretary General of the Academy.

Article (19) :

The movable and non-movable Funds of The Academy enjoy the legal protection decided by the Public Funds Law. So it is in no case allowed to freeze them or capture them or by time antiquity.

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