



WFSA Membership Dues Proposal – 2025 and 2026

Background

WFSA has a global membership dues structure, with the same dues levied on each Member Society regardless of their country's income level. This means that the American Society pays the same dues per member as the society in Zimbabwe. We are not proposing to change this; note that this is different from what is done by quite a few other international umbrella bodies such as the International Federation of Gynaecology and Obstetrics (FIGO) and the World Federation of Neurology.

When WFSA was set up in 1955, dues were USD 1 per declared member of each Member Society. If this had increased in line with inflation, the dues would currently be USD 11.48.¹ However, an increase in line with inflation has not previously been considered and it would not seem politic to propose doing so now.

55 Member Societies attended the General Assembly in Hong Kong where the following was approved: 'To approve the WFSA subscription per individual society member increases at a rate of \$0.25 per year for the next four years for all members [...]' This meant that by 2020, the rate per declared individual member was USD 3.90.

The global pandemic had an impact on the global economy, including the income of both our Member Societies and their individual members. At the 2020 business meeting, it was therefore agreed to freeze the dues for 2021 and 2022, and to limit the increase to \$0.10 per year for 2023 and 2024.

The 2023 dues are therefore USD 4.00 per declared member; this will increase to USD 4.10 in 2024.

¹ <https://www.officialdata.org/us/inflation/1955?amount=1> accessed 6 Nov 2023

Proposed increase for 2025 and 2026

It now seems appropriate to propose annual dues increases of \$0.25 as foreseen in Hong Kong in 2016. With a total membership of just under 160,000 split between 136 Member Societies, this would take our annual dues income to USD 736,000 by 2026.

<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>
\$4.35	\$4.60

For comparison, the World Federation of Neurology charges above USD 5 per declared member of its Member Societies.

###

Recommended to the General Assembly for approval

Professor Davy Cheng, Treasurer, on behalf of the WFSA Board.