

**PROPOSED CONSTITUTION**  
**OF THE**  
**DANCE STUDIES SUB-COMMITTEE**



**ESTABLISHED UNDER**  
**ICTMD SRI LANKA NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF**  
**INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR TRADITIONS OF MUSIC**  
**AND DANCE**  
**(ICTMD)**

## **Preamble**

The Dance Studies Sub-Committee is established as a specialized body under the authority of the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee, in alignment with the statutes, ethical principles, and objectives of the International Council for Traditions of Music and Dance (ICTMD).

This Constitution provides the governing framework for the functioning of the Dance Studies Sub-Committee, defining its mandate, structure, membership, authority, responsibilities, and procedures. It affirms a commitment to academic rigor, practice-based knowledge, community engagement, inclusivity, accessibility, and ethical conduct, while fostering dialogue between scholarship, performance, and cultural policy.

The Sub-Committee recognizes diverse epistemologies and embodied knowledge systems related to dance and adopts a rhizomatic approach to research, practice, and collaboration, without compromising institutional accountability or legal governance.

## **Scope and Authority**

This Constitution shall govern all activities of the ICTMD Sri Lanka Dance Studies Sub-Committee and shall be read in conjunction with:

- The Constitution and Statutes of ICTMD International
- The Constitution and policies of the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee

In the event of any inconsistency, the authority of the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee shall prevail.

## **Approval and Adoption**

This Constitution is subject to approval by the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee and shall come into force upon such approval.

### **Approved by:**

ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee

### **Date of Approval:**

## **Article 1: Name**

The body shall be known as the Dance Studies Sub-Committee (hereinafter referred to as “the Sub-Committee”).

## **Article 2: Affiliation, Legal Standing, and Accountability**

1. The Sub-Committee shall function under the authority and supervision of the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee.
2. The Sub-Committee is not an independent legal entity and derives its mandate from the National Committee.
3. The Chairperson shall be directly accountable to the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee for all actions, decisions, and representations of the Sub-Committee.
4. All activities shall comply with:
  - ICTMD International Statutes and Ethical Guidelines
  - ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee Constitution and policies

## **Article 3: Vision and Philosophical Orientation**

1. The Sub-Committee adopts an academic, practice-based, and community-rooted orientation to dance.
2. It functions as a bridge between scholarship, embodied practice, performance, and cultural policy.
3. A rhizomatic philosophical position shall inform:
  - Methodologies
  - Inclusivity
  - Knowledge production and collaboration. This position shall not override legal authority, governance structures, or decision-making procedures.

## **Article 4: Mandate, Powers, and Functions**

The Sub-Committee shall have the authority to:

1. Advise on national cultural policy related to dance.

2. Curate, initiate, and oversee festivals, conferences, symposia, workshops, and public forums.
3. Coordinate research clusters, study groups, and working groups.
4. Initiate projects independently within its approved mandate.
5. Recommend funding priorities related to dance.
6. Issue public statements and policy recommendations, subject to Article 5.
7. Promote ethical research, documentation, dissemination, and pedagogy in dance.

### **Article 5: Public Statements and Political Sensitivity**

1. The Chairperson shall hold final authority over all public statements issued by the Sub-Committee.
2. Statements relating to non-political and academic matters may be issued independently by the Sub-Committee.
3. Public statements involving sensitive cultural, social, or political issues shall:
  - Be reviewed and approved by the Chairperson
  - Be issued in consultation with, or formally reported to, the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee
4. The Chairperson shall bear responsibility for ensuring institutional alignment and reputational integrity.

### **Article 6: Composition of the Sub-Committee**

1. The Sub-Committee shall consist of twenty (20) members.
2. Membership shall ensure diversity in:
  - Gender (minimum 40% representation, with reasonable effort)
  - Disability and accessibility
  - Religious, ethnic, regional, and cultural backgrounds
3. Temporary deviation from gender representation may be permitted with written justification.

### **Article 7: Membership Categories and Eligibility**

1. **Ordinary Members:**
  - Individuals engaged in:

- Dance research and scholarships
- Performance and practice
- Heritage preservation
- Education and pedagogy
- Interdisciplinary dance studies

**2. Student Representatives:**

- Three (3) members nominated from the ICTMD Sri Lanka Student Sub-Committee
  - Undergraduate students may not apply as Ordinary Members
  - Student Representatives shall:
    - Have equal voting rights
    - Count toward quorum
    - Serve defined terms aligned with this Constitution
3. All members shall have equal voting rights.

**Article 8: Chairperson**

1. The Chairperson shall be the Vice President of the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee representing Dance.
2. Upon appointment of a new National Committee, the Dance Studies Sub-Committee shall be reconstituted within three (3) months.
3. If the Vice President remains unchanged, the Chairperson may continue for the remaining term.
4. The Chairperson shall:
  - Convene and preside over meetings
  - Ensure accessibility and inclusivity
  - Ensure provision of sign language interpretation:
    - Upon request
    - Where practicable
    - Where any member requires it for participation
  - Represent the Sub-Committee nationally and internationally
  - Report to the National Committee

## **Article 9: Nomination and Appointment of Members**

1. Five (5) members may be appointed directly by the Chairperson.
2. Remaining members shall be selected through a public online nomination process, open for five (05) days.
3. Nominations may be self-nominations or third-party nominations with consent.
4. At least three (3) new members shall be elected in each appointment cycle, excluding members appointed by the Chairperson.
5. Selection shall ensure balanced representation and continuity.

## **Article 10: Term of Office**

1. The term of office shall be three (3) years.
2. Members may serve a maximum of two (2) consecutive terms.
3. There shall be no staggered appointments.

## **Article 11: Internal Office Bearers**

1. Mandatory office bearers:
  - Chairperson
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
2. Additional roles may be created as required.
3. All appointments shall be made by simple majority vote of the Sub-Committee.
4. Rotation of roles shall be decided at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by simple majority vote.

## **Article 12: Meetings and Voting**

1. The Sub-Committee shall meet at least twice annually.
2. A simple majority shall constitute a quorum.
3. All members have equal voting rights.
4. Decisions shall be made by consensus where possible, otherwise by simple majority vote.

## **Article 13: Conflict of Interest and Code of Conduct**

1. Members shall disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest.
2. Members shall:
  - Act in good faith
  - Uphold ICTMD ethical standards
  - Respect diversity and accessibility
  - Avoid misuse of position or resources
3. Violations may result in warning, suspension, or removal by simple majority vote.

## **Article 14: Resignation, Removal, and Replacement**

1. Members may resign by written notice.
2. Members may be removed for misconduct or inactivity by simple majority vote.
3. Mid-term vacancies:
  - The chairperson shall propose a replacement
  - Approval by simple majority vote of the Sub-Committee

## **Article 15: Language and Accessibility**

1. Official working languages: Sinhala/Tamil/English.
2. Accessibility measures shall be ensured.
3. Sign language interpretation shall be provided:
  - Upon request
  - Where practicable
  - Where required for full participation of any member

## **Article 16: Financial Management**

1. The Sub-Committee may manage funds independently.
2. Financial activities shall be transparent and known to all members.
3. Financial reports shall be provided upon request to:
  - ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee
  - ICTMD International

## **Article 17: Archives, Documentation, and Publications**

1. The Secretary shall maintain all records.
2. All materials shall be formally handed over to the newly appointed Sub-Committee.

## **Article 18: Reporting and International Alignment**

1. An annual report shall be submitted to:
  - ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee
  - ICTMD International
2. All work shall align with ICTMD ethical guidelines.

## **Article 19: Amendments**

1. **Minor Procedural Amendments:**
  - Approved by simple majority vote of the Sub-Committee
  - Ratified by the National Committee
2. **Major Constitutional Amendments or Adoption of a New Constitution:**
  - Require approval of the National Committee
  - Require a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Sub-Committee
3. Amendments proposed within the first two meetings may be approved by simple majority, subject to National Committee ratification.

## **Article 20: Dissolution**

The Sub-Committee may be dissolved by the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee on grounds including:

- Non-functioning
- Ethical violations
- Breach of ICTMD principles

## **Article 21: Adoption**

This Constitution shall come into force upon approval by the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee.

## **Appendix A: Annual General Meeting (AGM) Rules and Election Procedures**

### **A1. Purpose of the AGM**

1. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is the highest decision-making forum of the ICTMD Sri Lanka Dance Studies Sub-Committee.
2. The AGM shall:
  - Review activities and performance of the Sub-Committee
  - Approve reports and accounts
  - Conduct elections where applicable
  - Appoint or rotate internal office bearers
  - Consider procedural amendments
  - Provide a forum for collective reflection and planning

### **A2. Frequency and Notice of AGM**

1. The AGM shall be held once every calendar year.
2. The Secretary shall issue a formal notice of the AGM at least fourteen (14) days in advance.
3. The notice shall include:
  - Date, time, and mode (physical / virtual / hybrid)
  - Agenda
  - Election-related information, if applicable
4. AGM notices shall be circulated through official ICTMD Sri Lanka communication channels.

### **A3. Quorum**

1. A quorum shall consist of a simple majority (50% + 1) of the total Sub-Committee membership.
2. If a quorum is not present:
  - The meeting shall be adjourned
  - The reconvened meeting may proceed with members present

#### **A4. Chairing the AGM**

1. The AGM shall be chaired by the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee.
2. In the absence of the Chairperson:
  - The chairperson should appoint a temporary Chair.

#### **A5. Agenda of the AGM**

The standard AGM agenda shall include:

1. Confirmation of minutes of the previous AGM
2. Chairperson's report
3. Secretary's report
4. Treasurer's financial report
5. Discussion and adoption of reports
6. Elections and appointments (if applicable)
7. Procedural amendments (if any)
8. Any other business with prior notice

#### **A6. Eligibility to Vote and Contest**

1. All members of the Sub-Committee, including Student Representatives, shall:
  - Have equal voting rights
  - Be eligible to contest internal office bearer positions
2. Members under disciplinary suspension shall not be eligible to vote or contest.

#### **A7. Election Cycle**

1. Elections shall be conducted:
  - At the AGM corresponding to the end of a three-year term, or
  - When required due to vacancies or reconstitution
2. At least three (3) new members shall be elected in each election cycle, excluding members appointed directly by the Chairperson.

#### **A8. Nomination Process**

1. Nominations shall be:
  - Conducted through the official online nomination system
  - Open for fourteen (14) days following public announcement
2. Nominations may be:
  - Self-nominations
  - Nominations by others, with written consent
3. Nominees must meet eligibility criteria as defined in the Constitution.
4. The Secretary shall compile and circulate the final list of eligible nominees prior to the AGM.

## **A9. Election Procedure**

1. Elections shall be conducted by:
  - Secret ballot, or
  - Secure online voting, where applicable
2. Each member shall have one vote per vacancy.
3. Candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.
4. In the event of a tie:
  - A re-vote shall be conducted
  - If unresolved, the Chairperson shall have a casting vote

## **A10. Appointment of Office Bearers**

1. Following the election of members, the Sub-Committee shall appoint:
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer
  - Any additional roles
2. Appointments shall be made by simple majority vote.
3. Rotation of office bearers, if proposed, shall be decided at the AGM.

## **A11. Mid-Term Vacancies**

1. In the event of a mid-term vacancy:
  - The Chairperson shall propose a replacement
  - The Sub-Committee shall approve the appointment by simple majority vote

2. The replacement member shall serve the remaining term only.

## **A12. Procedural vs Constitutional Changes**

### **1. Procedural Changes:**

- Relate to meeting conduct, workflows, or internal operations
- May be approved at the AGM by simple majority vote
- Subject to ratification by the National Committee

### **2. Constitutional Changes:**

- Affect structure, authority, membership, or mandate
- Require:
  - Approval of the National Committee
  - A two-thirds (2/3) majority vote at the AGM

## **A13. Accessibility and Language at the AGM**

1. The AGM shall be conducted in Sinhala/Tamil/English.
2. Sign language interpretation shall be provided:
  - Upon request
  - Where practicable
  - Where required for the participation of any member
3. The Chairperson shall ensure reasonable accessibility accommodations.

## **A14. Minutes and Records**

1. The Secretary shall record accurate minutes of the AGM.
2. Minutes shall be circulated to all members within fourteen (14) days.
3. Approved minutes shall form part of the official records of the Sub-Committee.

## **A15. Oversight and Validity**

1. All AGM decisions shall be subject to oversight by the ICTMD Sri Lanka National Committee.
2. Any procedural irregularities may be reviewed upon written request.