



Network of reference laboratories and related organisations for  
monitoring and bio-monitoring of emerging environmental pollutants

# NORMAN permanent network Launch Meeting

Paris, 20 October 2008

# We have built the infrastructure: we are ready to go forward!

- EC funding for 3 years of the project (2 million euros)

Ultimate objective of the project: to set up a permanent self-sustaining network on emerging substances

- Independent and competent network
- Official recognition from institutional bodies at EU and wider international level

# Mission of the NORMAN network

- To enhance exchange of information and collection of data on emerging environmental pollutants;
- To encourage validation and harmonisation of common measurement methods and monitoring tools so that the demands of risk assessors can be better met;
- To ensure that knowledge on emerging pollutants is maintained and developed by stimulating co-ordinated, interdisciplinary projects on collaborative research and knowledge transfer to address identified needs.

# NORMAN

- An expert panel to support decision-makers at EU and national level on the challenges posed by emerging substances

**Proposal for an activity on Emerging Pollutants led by NORMAN / JRC as part of CMA / WG-E programme**

# **NORMAN legal framework**

- Statutes and Internal Rules: needed so we can work together in the long term
- Type of organisation: a non-profit association - in line with our mission
- Membership fee: because the network cannot work efficiently with in-kind contribution only
- A voluntary initiative of institutes willing to cooperate on an issue of common interest

# Where are we today?

## Creation of the association

- 8 Founding Members:
  - INERIS (FR)
  - BRGM (FR)
  - EI/VUVH (SK)
  - IVL (SE)
  - IAREN (PT)
  - QUASIMEME / Wageningen University
  - BfG (DE)
  - UBA (DE)
- Have come to common agreement about the Statutes
- Signature and set up of association: planned Nov 08
- Collaboration agreement with JRC

# Next steps (Nov 2008 - Jan 2009)

- Finalisation of the process for the creation of the association
- We will invite the organisations that have expressed an interest in joining the network to become members (i.e. accept the Statutes + Internal Rules)
- The association will be open to new members



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# NORMAN Statutes

# WHO (Member) ?

- Association will be formed of any juridical entities - except private individuals - from the four groups of stakeholders :
  - National Competent Authorities and Reference Laboratories,
  - Research centres and Academia,
  - Industry and private sector,
  - Non Governmental Organisations and Institutional Bodies.

# WHAT (Legal commitment) ?

- There is not yet a European law on which to rely for European Associations
- Non-profit association under French Law (Law 1901)
  - easier because two French organisations among Founding Members
  - quite quick procedure

# WHY (Subscription)?

- It is a voluntary and active initiative of the institute: **only partially remunerated by the association's resources**

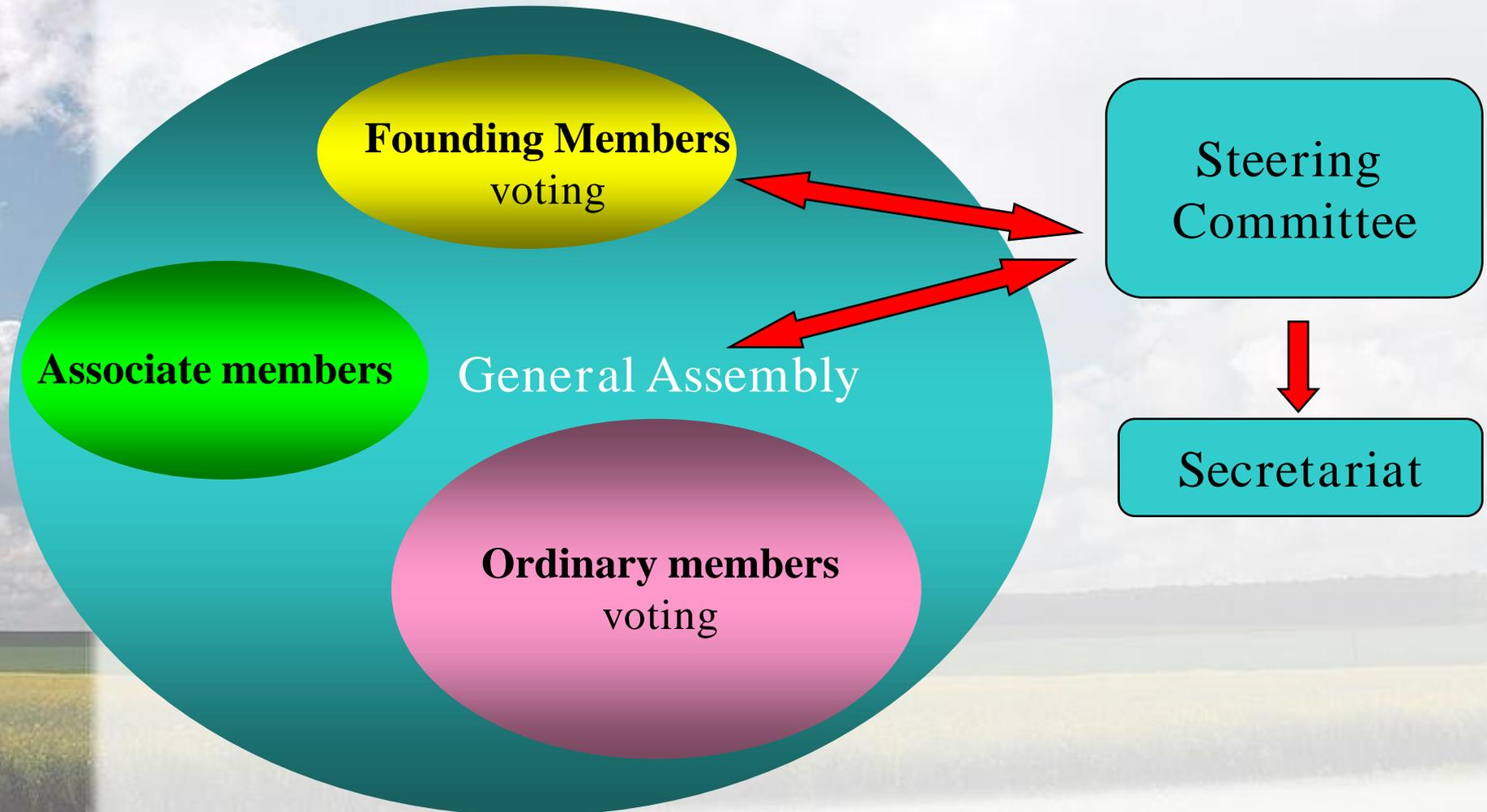
**An external observer** has free access to the info, data of the network:  
all data of NORMAN will be public (statutes)

- **So why become a member?**

**A member:**

- is an actor in network proposals, decisions and discussions
- takes active part in the activities of the network and in guiding its work
- takes part in meetings and is fully involved in the regular information flow

# HOW ? (Structure / organisation)



- pay the annual fee
- pay an extra fee during the first 3 years in order to help the start-up phase
- automatically be a member of the Steering Committee for the first three years
- after this start-up phase, membership of the Steering Committee will be achievable only by election

Founding

- core of financial phase

- more powerful network

- in order phase

**Founding members**

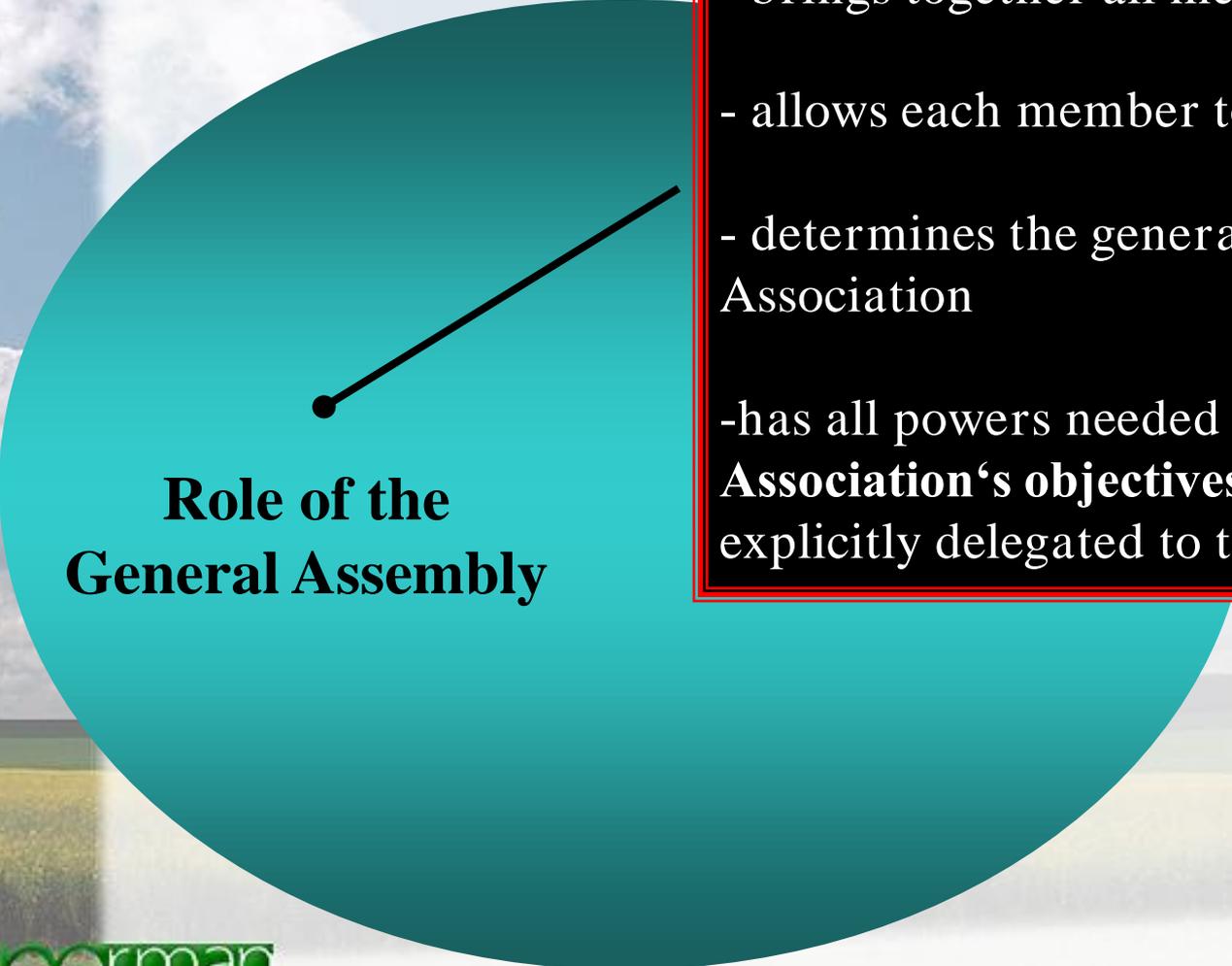
- participate in the activities
- make proposals
- have the right to vote
- pay an annual membership fee
- after three years of continuous membership, may seek to achieve the status of Founding Member, in consideration of their contribution to the development of the Association

## Ordinary members

- do not pay any membership fee
- no right to vote
- may participate in the General Assembly and other activities of the Association with a right to speak, but shall have no right to vote.
- Associate Members can make proposals and act as consultants to the General Assembly and the Steering Committee

**Associate members =**  
Institutional bodies, governmental and international organisations, standardisation bodies and non-governmental organisations

# Role of the General Assembly



## Role of the General Assembly

- brings together all members of the Association
- allows each member to express their position
- determines the general policy of the Association
- has all powers needed for the realisation of the Association's objectives, and such powers as are explicitly delegated to the Steering Committee

# Role of the Steering Committee

## Steering Committee

**The tasks of the Steering Committee include :**

- Defining the Annual Programme of Activities, taking into account the proposals of the Members
- Planning, monitoring and controlling the budget
- Ensuring that NORMAN objectives are met
- Appointing Executive Secretary, Chairman and Treasurer
- Administrative management of the day-to-day business of the Association



Steering  
Committee

*Chairman : Jaroslav SLOBODNIK*



Secretariat

*Treasurer : Åke Iverfeldt*



*Secretary : Valeria DULIO*

