**Associate Membership Redefined**

**Article 4(b)**

A submission from the Chairman of the Constitution Committee, Events Committee, ISAF Classes Committee and Regional Games Committee

**Purpose or Objective**

To change the Articles of Constitution to redefine Associate Membership to include but be limited to a small number of territories and the principal benefit will be to send competitors to regional games

**Proposal**

**MEMBERSHIP**

4. Membership in the Federation shall consist of the following Classes:

(b) **Associate Member** - membership in the Federation granted to a National Authority under Article 5(b) for Authorities within a territory which is not recognised by the IOC (not being a country pursuant to paragraph 1 of Rule 31 of the Olympic Charter) but promoting and managing the sport of Yachting within its territorial waters independently of another country or territory. Associate Membership is not available to organisations whose governance is determined by or dependent upon that of another country and the laws of that country prescribe or require that any competitor of the relevant territory should compete under the jurisdiction of that other country and its National Authority. Associate Members shall not be entitled to voting rights, and their membership shall continue only until the next Ordinary General Assembly when it shall be reviewed and if appropriate may then be renewed.

**Current Position**

As above.

**Reasons**

Currently sailors from a small number of dependant territories are effectively prevented from competing in their appropriate (by geographical area) regional games. This membership is both temporary in nature and subject to regular review to prevent any abuse.

It is also essential to ensure that sovereignty over any given territory is not infringed. Any MNA that believes that a potential Associate Member might infringe sovereignty issues only has to give notice with some supporting evidence, and that applicant would be automatically rejected.
Associate Membership will not be available to any territory that currently falls within an existing MNA’s area of activity.

Note: If approved, amendment will still be needed to our Regulations to enable such sailors to compete in Regional Games or other ISAF competitions.