

Selection from:

Higher Education and Research Act

Article 1.5 Scientific Research Institutes

Paragraph 2: The National Library of the Netherlands is active in the field of librarianship and information provision, both for higher education and scientific research and for the public administration and the exercise of profession or business. Within this framework, it serves as the National Library Collection, it promotes the realisation and the upkeep of national provisions in the aforementioned field, and it promotes coordination with other academic libraries.

Article 1.16 Corporate personality of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) and the National Library of the Netherlands (KB)

Both the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Library of the Netherlands have corporate personality.

Article 1.16a. Autonomous Administrative Authorities Framework Act

The Autonomous Administrative Authorities Framework Act applies to the National Library of the Netherlands, with the exception of Article 15 of that Act.

Article 1.17. Funding

1 The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences is entitled to a contribution from the State Funds for the performance of the duties assigned to it pursuant to this Act. The first sentence shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the National Library of the Netherlands, without prejudice to its entitlement to a contribution on the basis of Article 9 of the Public Library Provisions System Act.

2 The provisions of the first paragraph are subject to the condition that the institute concerned shall comply with the provisions laid down in or pursuant to this Act in respect of:

- a. quality assurance,
- b. schedule and funding,
- c. staff, and
- d. management and organisation.

3 The conditions, as referred to in paragraph 2 under (a), and under (b) in terms of the schedule, do not pertain to the advisory duty of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Chapter 2. Schedule and funding

Article 2.1 Scope

1 With the exception of Article 2.13 and Title 5, this Chapter relates to the universities and universities of applied sciences, the Open University, the universities based on ideology, The Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences, and the National Library of the Netherlands.

2 The academic hospitals are exclusively covered by [Article 2.10](#), [Article 2.12](#) and [Article 2.13](#), as well as [Title 5](#).

Article 2.2a. Procedure and contents of the institutional plans of the research institutes

1 In derogation of [Article 2.2](#), the institutional board of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and the institutional board of the National Library of the Netherlands shall adopt an institutional plan no later than four years after having adopted the previous plan. Following the adoption of the plan, this plan will promptly be sent to Our Minister.

2 The institutional plan takes into account the budget for science, as referred to in [Article 16a of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research Act](#), the institutional plans of universities, surveys, reports, opinions and recommendations, provided those are essential for the performance of the institute's duties as in the opinion of the institutional board.

3 The institutional plans shall at least comprise the following:

- a. the institute's objectives for scientific research for the medium term,
- b. the broad outlines of the policies to be pursued and the priorities to be set therein, and
- c. the financial, personnel, material and organisational conditions that have to be met.

4 Our Minister shall state his position on the institutional plan to the institutional board within six months after receipt thereof. Our Minister shall provide the Houses of the States General with a copy of the institutional plan.

5 Our Minister may change his position on the institutional plan during the term, if the adoption of a new science budget gives reason to do so. Paragraph 4 applies by analogy.

Article 2.6a. Government grant to Scientific Research Institutes

1 The revenue of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Library of the Netherlands consists of:

- a. the contribution from the State Funds,
- b. the revenue related to provisions for which the government grant has been issued, and
- c. other revenue.

2 The government grant shall be confirmed or further specified by the adoption or further adoption by law on the basis of the chapter of the state budget that proposes the government grant.

3 The government grant is paid in such periods and up to such amounts as needed for the institute to make its payments.

4 An advance payment is made in accordance with the rules to be imposed by Our Minister for as long as the government grant has not been confirmed or further specified.

5 The revenue referred to in the first paragraph under (c) shall not be taken into consideration upon determining the government grant.

6 Our Minister shall lay down rules with regard to the allocation of balances arising from the revenue referred to in paragraph 1 under (a) and (b).

Article 2.8 Budget

1 The institutional board shall adopt an annual budget for the institute prior to the financial year in question. The financial year corresponds to the calendar year. The board of a university referred to in [Article 1.13\(1\)](#) shall take account of the government grant fixed for the academic hospital in adopting the budget or an amendment of the budget. The boards of the institutes referred to in [Article 1.5](#) shall send the budget, as well as any amendments to the budget, to Our Minister within fourteen days after the adoption thereof.

2 The budget shall constitute an estimate of the income and expenditure as well as an estimate of the revenues and charges of the institute, which must be in balance. The budgets of the Royal Netherlands Academy for Arts and Science and of the National Library of the Netherlands shall include an allocation of means in line with the institutional plan, as referred to in [Article 2.2a](#). The revenue from the government grant planned in the budget corresponds to the government grant which has been estimated or confirmed by Our Minister for the financial year in question, and further specified where appropriate.

3 The institutional board shall ensure an amendment to the budget if the confirmed government grant deviates from the estimated government grant included in the budget, as well as in case of a further specified government grant.

4 The institutional board shall pay the necessary expenditure within the limits of the allocated or amended budget.

5 Transfers to the budget items may be made by the institutional board in the cases provided for by the rules to be laid down by this institutional board.

Article 2.9 Reporting

6 In derogation of paragraph 1, the general management of the National Library of the Netherlands shall report to Our Minister before 15 March of each year.

Chapter 3. Consultations

Article 3.1 General consultations

1 Our Minister will regularly consult with a representative of the institutional boards of the funded universities and universities of applied sciences, the Open University, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Science and the National Library of the Netherlands on matters of public interest and concern in respect of those institutes.

Chapter 4. Staff

Article 4.1 Scope

1 This Chapter pertains to universities, universities of applied sciences, the Open Universities and the universities based on ideology.

2 With the exception of [Article 4.2\(2\)\(3\)](#), this Chapter also pertains to the academic hospitals, the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences and the National Library of the Netherlands.

Article 4.2 Staffing policy

1 The institutional board decides on the staffing policy and the personnel management. In doing so, it shall observe the regulations laid down by or pursuant to the law, as well as the requirements of due care.

4 The institutional board shall make a copy of the document available for inspection at a location accessible to both staff and students, as well as ensure that the institute's administration keeps a copy in its records.

Chapter 13. The management and organisation of scientific research institutes

Title 2. The management and organisation of the National Library of the Netherlands

Article 13.3. The general management

1 The power to regulate and manage the National Library of the Netherlands rests with the general management insofar as this power is not assigned to the librarian by or pursuant to this Act. The general management performs those duties and exercises those powers that have been assigned to the institutional board by or pursuant to the law, except as otherwise specified in or by virtue of this Chapter.

2 The general management consists of a Chair, who is also a member, and no more than four other members. Our Minister decides on the number of members.

3 Our Minister appoints, suspends and dismisses the members of the general management. The appointment shall be for a term to be decided by Our Minister.

4 The members of the general management may be heard, suspended and dismissed prematurely by Our Minister and by the other members of the general management.

5 Our Minister may grant an allowance to or remunerate one or more members of the general management. By or pursuant to an order in council, detailed rules will be laid down with regard to the legal status of those members of the general management who receive a remuneration.

6 The Chair of the general management represents the library at law and otherwise.

Article 13.5. Librarian

1 Within the framework of the policy established by the general management, the management of the National Library of the Netherlands rests with the librarian.

2 It is the librarian's duty to prepare and implement the policy of the general management.

Article 13.6. Rules of procedure

1 The general management shall establish the rules of procedure for the detailed arrangements of the management and organisation of the National Library of the Netherlands subject to the provisions laid down by or pursuant to this Act.

2 The rules of procedure shall in any case regulate the replacement of the members of the general management in the event of their absence.

Article 13.8. Public access

1 The general management shall provide information about the institution to stakeholders and interested parties, both on request as well as at its own initiative. The rules of procedure regulate in which cases the provision of information will be omitted.

2 The general management shall lay down rules for the calculation of rates for when the information is provided upon request.

Article 13.9. Suspension and annulment of decisions

1 The decisions of the general management may be annulled by Royal Decree. The provisions in the first sentence shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the decisions of the general meeting of the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences relating to the adoption or amendment of the regulations referred to in [Article 13.2](#).

2 The decision to suspend or annul will be published in the Bulletin of Acts and Decrees.

3 Paragraph 1 does not apply to administrative decisions made by the general management of the National Library of the Netherlands. [Article 22 of the Autonomous Administrative Authorities Framework Act](#) shall apply to the above.