



# World Fire Congress

## Statement of Founding Principles and Objectives

Fire is a risk that impacts the security, health, and prosperity of citizens and communities in every town, city, state, province, and nation. It also represents a borderless threat to our environment.

As leaders responsible for preventing and fighting fires, the delegates at this first meeting of the World Fire Congress (WFC) comprise a diverse gathering of fire-fighting agencies that share common goals of protecting our communities and our shared environment.

Communities throughout the world face common and evolving challenges, including firefighter health and safety, fire risks associated with emerging technologies, climate-change driven wildfires, and structural fires.

The partner agencies of the WFC share responsibilities to gather and analyze information on all types of firefighting activities, including technical information related to building construction; the fire properties of materials; information on fire prevention and control laws, systems, methods, techniques, and administrative structures; and information on the causes, behavior, and best method of control of other types of fire, including, forest fires.

In a spirit of friendship, and for the common benefit of each community represented within the WFC, its delegates intend to share their collected knowledge with other WFC partner communities.

WFC delegates plan to meet to build relationships that will allow a more open, transparent, and efficient sharing of information through communities of practice; to enable experts within our ranks to gather regularly to share strategies; to bring forward possible solutions to common challenges; to identify emerging problem areas and set priorities; and to monitor the progress of cooperative efforts and programs to reduce fire losses.

It is to the common benefit of all delegates and the communities they represent to share this information voluntarily, and in accordance with the principles of Dignity, Respect, and Equality for all delegates, partner communities, and their people, without restrictions on participation or the sharing of information on the basis of gender, race, color, nationality, language, disability, or sexual orientation.



The Statement of Founding Principles shall be confirmed by the signatory nations present at the inaugural meeting of the World Fire Congress and in accordance with their respective processes. The signatory nations will become the original Delegates of the World Fire Congress.

The signed Statement of Founding Principles shall be deposited with the United States Fire Administration, which shall transmit copies thereof to all the signatory nations. A duly certified copy shall be transmitted by the United States Fire Administration to the National Fire Chiefs Council of the United Kingdom to be available for additional nation delegate signatures at the 2026 meeting of the World Fire Congress and to be attached to the subsequent Charter of the World Fire Congress to be developed by the delegates between meetings of the Congress.

In Faith Whereof the Delegates of the World Fire Congress have signed the Statement of Founding Principles completed in the city of Washington, D.C., on the 8th day of May, two thousand and twenty-four.

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United States Fire Administration (USFA), U.S. Fire Administrator

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United Kingdom National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC), NFCC President

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Organization of American Firefighters (OBA), OBA Executive Director

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Australian and New Zealand National Council for Fire & Emergency Services (AFAC)

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Federation of European Fire Officers (FEU), FEU President

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International Association of Fire and Rescue Services (CTIF), CTIF President

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Mexican Association of Fire Chiefs (AMJB), AMJB Commandant

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Israel Fire and Rescue Authority (IFRA) Commander, Second District

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Algeria

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Australia

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Austria

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Barbados

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Belize

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Brazil

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Canada

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Cyprus

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Denmark

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ECHO

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Ecuador

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El Salvador

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Estonia

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France

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Germany

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Ghana

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Greenland

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Guatemala

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Hungary

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Iceland

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Indonesia

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Israel

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Jamaica

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Japan

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Kenya

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Korea (Republic of)

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United Arab Emirates

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United Kingdom

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United Kingdom – Wales

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UNDRR

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United States

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The World Bank

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Zambia

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