

Solar Stewardship Initiative

Membership Fee Terms And Conditions

SSI Principles Annex 11

The Solar Stewardship Initiative

The Solar Stewardship Initiative (SSI) collaborates with industry participants, including manufacturers and buyers of solar photovoltaic modules, as well as civil society, NGOs, intergovernmental institutions, international financial institutions, academics, and independent experts. Together, they work to promote responsible production, sourcing, and stewardship of materials, enhancing sustainability, ESG performance, and transparency across the solar value chain. The SSI's mission is to enhance sustainability and environmental, social, governance (ESG) performance, as well as end-to-end transparency across the solar supply chain. Businesses actively involved in the solar value chain can apply to join the SSI and get certified against the SSI Standards.

The SSI's core objectives are to:

- Ensure the energy transition is just, inclusive, and respects human rights.
- Establish mechanisms to enhance supply-chain integrity in the global solar industry.
- Enable continuous improvement of ESG performance and level of transparency.
- Prepare the industry for relevant upcoming laws and regulations on ESG, transparency and responsible supply chains.

Version History

| Version | Date | Description |
|---------|---------------|--|
| 1.0 | February 2026 | First version issued as approved by the SSI Secretariat. |

1. Scope and purpose

This document should be read and construed in accordance with the overarching principles of the SSI, including but not limited to promoting sustainability, traceability, and ethical practices within the solar industry supply chain. Members are required to comply with the specific targets, timelines, and reporting protocols detailed within this Document, as well as any additional obligations communicated by the SSI Secretariat subject to a reasonable notice,

in which case this Document will be updated accordingly. By participating in the SSI, Members affirm their commitment to the provisions outlined herein and acknowledge that their compliance is integral to the collective objectives of the Initiative. Non-compliance may result in consequences as determined by the governance structure of the SSI, including but not limited to revocation of membership rights

This Annex sets out the rules governing the calculation, invoicing, payment, review, and adjustment of membership fees applicable to members of the Solar Stewardship Initiative (the SSI). It should be read in conjunction with the SSI Principles, the SSI Governance Terms of Reference (ToR), and the SSI Policy of Association.

This Annex is adopted pursuant to the SSI governance framework, under which the SSI Board is responsible for approving membership fee structures and related financial arrangements (see Governance Terms of References, Article 5 – Role and responsibilities of the Board).

The purpose of this Annex is to ensure predictability, transparency, and equal treatment of members with regard to membership fees

2. Membership year and validity

2.1 The SSI membership year runs from **1 January to 31 December** (calendar year).

2.2 Members are invoiced at the time that they join the SSI. Membership fees are payable for the calendar year in which the organisation joins.

2.3 Where an organisation joins the SSI **after 1 July**, a **50% reduction** of the annual membership fee applies for that calendar year only.

2.4 For the avoidance of doubt, an organisation is considered to have *joined* the SSI on the date of the official **welcome email** sent by the SSI Secretariat, following approval of the application by the SSI Board (see SSI Governance Terms of References, **Article 5 – Role and responsibilities of the Board**). The welcome email date serves as the official welcome date for any organisations joining the SSI after 30 May 2025. Any company joining prior should refer to the Principles signature date.

2.5 Membership is only considered **valid and active** once all of the following conditions are met:

- The SSI Principles have been duly signed;
- The applicable membership invoice has been paid in full;
- The organisation remains in compliance with the SSI Principles.

2.6 The SSI reserves the right to suspend or revoke membership in accordance with the SSI Policy of Association, including in cases of non-payment of membership fees or breach of the SSI Principles.

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- Non-payment of membership fees;
- Breach of the SSI Principles.

3. Membership fees for the 2026 membership cycle

3.1 The annual membership fees applicable for the **2026 membership cycle** are as follows:

All corporate members (Manufacturers and Buyers)

- Very Large (turnover > €1 billion): **€40,000**
- Large (turnover €1 billion – €500 million): **€30,000**
- Medium (turnover €500 million – €50 million): **€20,000**
- Small (turnover < €50 million): **€10,000**

3.2 Membership fees are determined based on the most recent confirmed financial turnover provided to the SSI Secretariat, in line with the Secretariat's role in administering membership matters (see SSI Governance Terms of References, Article 6 – Role of the Secretariat).

3.3 Membership fees are always calculated on the basis of **group-level turnover**, irrespective of which legal entity signs the SSI Principles. This ensures fair and consistent treatment across the membership.

3.4 Where a member fails to provide a valid and timely financial statement upon request by the SSI Secretariat, the SSI reserves the right to apply the highest turnover category for the purpose of calculating the membership fee.

4. Membership discounts

4.1 Members of the following organisations are eligible for a **25% discount** on the applicable SSI membership fee:

- SolarPower Europe
- Solar Energy UK
- Global Solar Council

4.2 The discount:

- Is not cumulative;
- Applies only if the membership of the relevant organisation is **valid at the time of joining the SSI**.

4.3 It is the responsibility of the applicant or member to provide evidence of such membership upon request by the SSI Secretariat.

5. Annual review of turnover and membership status

5.1 Each year, in **April**, the SSI Secretariat will:

- Review the most recent financial information available for each member;
- Verify whether the member's turnover category remains accurate;
- Confirm the continued validity of any applicable membership discounts.

5.2 This annual review is conducted under the Secretariat's mandate to manage membership administration and financial processes (see SSI Governance Terms of Reference **Article 6 – Role of the Secretariat**).

5.3 Members are required to promptly inform the SSI Secretariat of any material changes to their group structure or turnover that may affect their membership fee category.

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6. Renewal, withdrawal, and notice period

6.1 SSI membership is renewed on an annual basis.

6.2 Members who do not wish to renew their membership for the following calendar year must notify the SSI Secretariat **in writing by 30 September** of the current year.

6.3 Failure to provide notice by this deadline will result in the member being invoiced for the following membership year.

7. Invoicing and payment timeline

7.1 Standard invoicing for the upcoming membership year takes place in **October/November** of the preceding year.

7.2 New members joining during the year will be invoiced shortly after the welcome email is issued.

7.3 Upon written request by the member, the SSI Secretariat may agree to split the annual membership fee into a **maximum of three (3) instalments**.

7.4 In all cases, any split invoices must be **paid in full no later than 1 June** of the relevant membership year.

7.5 Membership rights may be suspended in case of late or non-payment, in accordance with the SSI Policy of Association.

8. Additional fees

8.1 In addition to the annual membership fee, the SSI may charge **additional fees** to cover exceptional administrative or assurance-related costs. These fees are charged **separately** and **once per year**, as applicable.

8.2 For 2026, the following additional fees apply:

- **SAQ revision**: €250 per round of review after two (2) rounds;
- **Assessment cancellation or rescheduling** (member-initiated, less than four (4) weeks before the assessment): €500;
- **Exceptional scope changes** (requested less than eight (8) weeks before the assessment): €500;
- **Late SAQ submission** (after the six (6) months deadline): €500;
- **Late assessment** (ninety (90)-day extension): €500.

8.3 Any applicable additional fees will be **tracked during the membership year** and will be communicated in **October/November**.

8.4 Where a member has accumulated additional fees during a given calendar year, the SSI Secretariat will issue **one consolidated invoice** in the **October/November invoicing cycle of the following year**. A written warning will be shared with member if a fee is attributed.

8.5 Non-payment of additional fees may result in suspension of membership rights, in line with the SSI Policy of Association

9. Adjustment of membership fees

9.1 The SSI Board may decide to revise or adjust membership fees in accordance with the SSI governance framework (see SSI Governance Terms of References, **Article 5 – Role and responsibilities of the Board**).

9.2 Any decision by the SSI Board to increase or otherwise adjust membership fees must:

- Be formally approved by the SSI Board;

- Be documented in Board meeting minutes;
- Be communicated to members **no later than 1 September** of the year preceding the new membership cycle.

9.3 By way of example, any change to membership fees applicable to the **2027 membership year** must be communicated to members by **1 September 2026** at the latest.

9.4 Adjusted membership fees apply only to future membership years, unless stated otherwise.

10. Entry into force

This Annex 11 enters into force and applies to the **2027 membership cycle**.

11. Definitions

For the purpose of this Annex, the following definitions apply:

- **Member:** Any organisation that has been approved by the SSI Board, has signed the SSI Principles, and has paid the applicable membership fee.
- **Group turnover:** The consolidated annual turnover of the parent company and all entities under its control, irrespective of which legal entity signs the SSI Principles.
- **Membership year:** The calendar year from 1 January to 31 December.
- **SSI Governance Terms of References:** The Terms of Reference of the Solar Stewardship Initiative, as approved by the SSI Board and in force at the relevant time.