

Kyoto, August 29, 1997

INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

Executive Committee: 69th Meeting

KICH - Kyoto, Japan

August 17, 18, 19, 20 & 25, 1997

Draft Minutes

Present:

L. Woltjer	President
R. Kraft	President-Elect
I. Appenzeller	General Secretary
J. Andersen	Assistant General Secretary
C. Anguita	Vice-President
B. Hidayat	Vice-President
D. Matthewson	Vice-President
F. Pacini	Vice-President
J. Smak	Vice-President
V. Trimble	Vice-President
A.A. Boyarchuk	Adviser
J. Bergeron	Adviser
H. Rickman	Incoming General Secretary

With the participation of Division Presidents:

J. Kovalevsky	Division I
O. Engvold	Division II
M. A'Hearn	Division III
M.A. Dopita	Division VI
R.B. Partridge	Division VIII
C.D. Scarfe	Division IX
G. Fazio	Division XI

Invited:

D. Sugimoto	Chairman, NOC
T. Fukushima	Chairman, SOC

In attendance:

M. Léger-Orine	Administrative Assistant
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I. OPENING BY THE PRESIDENT

The President, L. Woltjer, welcomes the members of the Executive Committee to the 69th meeting and also the Presidents of Divisions who, for the first time, are invited to attend the meetings of the Executive Committee. He also greets Prof. D. Sugimoto, Chair of the NOC, and Dr. T. Fukushima, who have been invited to attend..

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The Agenda is adopted, with minor re-arrangements of some items.

III. EC INTERNAL MATTERS

The Minutes of EC 68 are approved.

IV. REPORT ON THE SPECIAL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The President reports that the SNC will propose to the vote of the General Assembly the following Executive Committee for the period 1997-2000:

R. Kraft	President
F. Pacini	President-Elect
J. Andersen	General Secretary
H. Rickman	Assistant General Secretary
C. Anguita	Vice-President (1994-2000)
C. Cesarsky	Vice-President (1997-2003)
B. Hidayat	Vice-President (1994-2000)
N. Kaifu	Vice-President (1997-2003)
N. Kardashev	Vice-President (1997-2003)
V. Trimble	Vice-President (1994-2000)
L. Woltjer	Adviser
I. Appenzeller.	Adviser

V. MEMBERSHIP

Morocco's membership has terminated on December 31, 1996, according to paragraph 7 of the Statutes since no payment of dues had been received for 5 years despite repeated reminders by the GS. Morocco will be encouraged to apply for the status of Associate Member.

The Central American Assembly of Astronomers (CAAA) has applied for membership in the IAU. The EC will propose to the GA to accept the CAAA, representing the Astronomers in Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama, as an Associate Member of the Union according to Section VI, paragraph 11 of the IAU statutes, and that for this adhering organisation the same rules as for normal associate countries will apply.

Bolivia has applied for the status of Associate Member. The EC will propose its admission to the GA.

Macedonia: : The application received from the Macedonian Astronomical Society will be presented to the GA with the recommendation that EC be given authorization to accept this application as soon as a proper official membership application has been received from the corresponding Academy of Sciences.

Individual membership: The proposal in favour of G.V. Williams has been not accepted by the US National Committee as this scientist does not yet have his Ph.D. Regarding G.A. Burba (Russia), no urgency seems to be required; A. Boyarchuk will report later on the matter.

VI. FINANCES

Changes in category of adherence

The General Secretary reports that *Canada*, starting in 1998, intends to move from Category VI to Category V, in line with its membership. The EC recognised the validity of this argument.

The General Secretary reports that *Denmark* has informed the IAU that it intends to move up to Category III, starting in 1997. The EC accepts this proposal with thanks.

Countries in arrears

The EC agrees to waive the fees for the year 1997 as requested by *Bulgaria*, in view of the particularly difficult period this country is facing.

It is also decided to waive the dues for the years 1994, 1995 & 1996 as requested by *Peru*, provided that Peru pays the fees for the years 1997 & 1998. In case of default of payment of the dues for 1997 & 1998, § 21 of the statutes will apply.

A payment worth USD 4600 has been received from *Tajikistan*. This amount covers the debt of Tajikistan for the years 1997, 1996 and partially 1995. The EC decides that Tajikistan shall be granted a waiver of its dues for the years 1993, 1994 and the balance for 1995.

Because *Morocco's* membership has terminated on December 31, 1996 (see item V), the outstanding dues of this country for five years must be written off.

Treasurer

As it is foreseen to retain a Standing Finance Sub-Committee, the current Treasurer, Morton Roberts, is of the opinion that the position of Treasurer is no longer necessary. After thanking Morton Roberts for his work for the past 5 years, the EC decides not to renew this position.

1996 audited accounts

The accounts bring no question.

1994-1996 accounts

The total expenditure has been less than budgeted. However, the income has also been less than expected, due to non-payment of dues and developments in interest and exchange rates.

Draft budget 1998-2001

This budget still shows a deficit as recommended earlier by the Finance Committee. After 2000, the IAU will either have to attract more funding or reduce its expenditure.

VII. STATUTES, BY-LAWS & WORKING RULES

The final text of the modified statutes has been submitted to the Adhering Organizations and will be voted upon by the National Representatives during the General Assembly.

VIII. DIVISION, COMMISSION & WORKING GROUP MATTERS

The EC approves the proposed change of name for Commission 7 (Celestial Mechanics) to "*Celestial Mechanics and Dynamical Astronomy*". Furthermore, Commission 7 will be attached to Division I (Fundamental Astronomy). Both changes are submitted to the GA for approval.

The proposal to create a *Division Working Group on Hot Massive Stars* under Division IV and involving Commissions 29, 35, 36 & 37 is approved.

Worldwide Development of Astronomy:

The WG is maintained and is composed as follows:

A.H. Batten (Chair)	Canada
J.B. Hearnshaw	New Zealand
B. Hidayat	Indonesia
H. Jorgensen	Denmark
Y. Kozai	Japan
D. McNally	UK
M.C. Pineda de Carias	Honduras
J.R. Percy	Canada
D.G. Wentzel	USA

Development of Antarctic Astronomy

No recent news has been received from M. Burton. D. Mathewson will approach M. Burton in order to get information.

Large Scale Facilities

The future composition of the Organizing Committee will be communicated in the near future by its proposed new Chairman, R. Ekers.

Planetary System Nomenclature

The WG is maintained under the chairmanship of K. Aksnes.

IX. GENERAL ASSEMBLIES

XXIIIrd General Assembly:

Report by the XXIIIrd General Assembly Organisers

D. Sugimoto and T. Fukushima indicate that 1750 scientists have registered so far, giving a total of more than 2000 persons, including the registered guests; more on-site registrations are expected. Some 1600 poster papers have been accepted.

The LOC has been in a position to distribute grants for an amount of 18,000,000 Yen, coming from private companies and individual astronomers (1/3 and 2/3 respectively). The sums thus raised allowed also to offer a free banquet, making its attendance possible to all participants. The budget of the GA is expected to be balanced at the end of the operations.

The President and the General Secretary express the gratitude of the EC to both Prof. Sugimoto and Dr. Fukushima for the tremendous work accomplished by the NOC and LOC to make the GA a success.

The following points of the agenda of the General Assembly are then discussed:

Nomination for official Interpreters:

T. Courvoisier	English-French
J. Rountree	French-English

Nomination for Tellers:

W. Martin
J.P. Swings
P. Whitelock

Nomination of a Standing Finance Sub-Committee:

As proposed in its report, the Finance Sub-Committee will be asked to continue to serve until the next General Assembly, with the following composition:

A. Boksenberger	UK
G. Bruzual	Venezuela
S. Ikeuchi	Japan
R. Milkey	USA
D.C. Morton (Chair)	Canada

Nomination of a Standing Resolutions Committee, to act until the end of the next GA:

D. McNally (Chair)	UK
J. Kovalévsky	France
Y. Kozai	Japan
V. Trimble	USA
P. Wayman	Ireland

Special Nominating Committee:

The proposed composition, following the vote of the Division Presidents, is the following:

B. Barbuy	Brazil
D.C. Morton	Canada
R. Kraft	USA, ex officio
M.S. Longair	UK
D.C. Morton	Canada
D. Sugimoto	Japan
P. Whitelock	South Africa
L. Woltjer	Netherlands, ex officio

Resolutions

The EC reviews the resolutions submitted to the vote of the General Assembly.

The EC has proposed a resolution to protect astronomy at all wavelengths against the threats due to increasing adverse environmental impacts.

The proposal by the French National Committee for Astronomy to hold the General Assembly only every 4 years is discussed. It is the unanimous opinion of the EC that the perceived benefits of the proposal will not be achieved in practice, especially because the decision on the GAs in 2000 and 2003 have been or will be taken already now. Moreover, the administrative aspects of the proposal present disadvantages. Consequently, this proposal will not be submitted as a Resolution to the GA by the EC.

XXIVth General Assembly, 2000:

An invitation has been received from the Royal Society to hold the GA in Manchester in the year 2000. The EC has accepted the invitation, which will be submitted to the GA for approval.

XXVth General Assembly, 2003:

The invitation from 1995 by Australia to hold the XXVth GA in Sydney in the year 2003 will be submitted to the GA; the EC recommends that it be accepted at this time.

Additional information on venues:

A letter of intent regarding a possible later invitation to hold the XXVIth General Assembly in Canada in the years 2003 or 2006 has been received from the National Research Council, Canada. The EC will welcome a later, official invitation for 2006.

X. EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ISYAs

The ISYA in *Iran* has been a success and the EC acknowledges with thanks the work of its organizers.

A possible ISYA to be held in *Romania* (1999) is under study.

TAD

Vietnam

The IAU/TAD-sponsored "Summer School on Astrophysics" at Vinh University, August 31-September 12, is central to the TAD program to re-introduce astronomy to Vietnam. It was organized by Prof. Nguyen Dinh Huan, vice-rector of Vinh University.

Central America

The National Universities of six Central American countries have agreed to develop astronomy for the purpose of training scientists and future regional and international research programs. The IAU, through the project Teaching for Astronomy Development (TAD), contributes to two activities: Regional Observational Campaign and Traineeship Program (National University of Honduras), and Central American Regional Courses on Astronomy.

Miscellaneous

Exploratory contacts have been made with Morocco and Sri Lanka regarding future possible TADs, so far without definite conclusions.

COSPAR/IAU Workshops

A joint proposal with COSPAR for an International specialized Workshop has been submitted to ICSU in the frame of their programme on Capacity Building in Science for the period 1988-2000.

XI. PUBLICATIONS

Publishing contract

The new publishing contract has been signed with ASP, effective January 1, 1998, for a duration of 6 years. Lower prices than previously will bring substantial savings, especially to institutes and libraries. The income to the IAU from royalties will, however, also be lower.

Transactions A (Reports on Astronomy)

Recurrent discussions arise concerning the format of these Transactions. The issue will be discussed during the meeting with the Presidents of Commissions and taken up for decision at EC 70.

Free distribution of IAU contract

It is decided to approve the request to add Bulgaria to the list of recipients of free copies of the IAU publications. At the same time, the incoming GS is instructed to reduce the list by approx. 30%.

XII. INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

UNESCO: See under § **COSPAR/IAU Workshops**

XIII. CLOSURE BY THE PRESIDENT

L. Woltjer thanks the retiring members of the current EC: Past President A. Boyarchuk for providing firm leadership during a time of confusion in Eastern Europe, Vice Presidents D. Mathewson and J. Smak for their sound and inspiring advice on scientific and practical matters, and Past General Secretary J. Bergeron for her energetic initiatives to reinvigorate the Union.

Outgoing Vice President F. Pacini is expected to continue on the new EC as President-Elect. The President also thanks outgoing General Secretary I. Appenzeller for his careful and diplomatic running of the Union's affairs, and welcomes the long scientific and political experience of his successor, incoming President R. Kraft.