

UNION ASTRONOMIQUE INTERNATIONALE  
INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION

Forty-second Meeting of the Executive Committee

Grenoble, France

Thursday, 2 September 1976

P R O C E E D I N G S

The 42nd meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Astronomical Union was held in the Physics Building, University of Medicine and Science of Grenoble, on Thursday, 2 September 1976 from 14.15 to 18.30.

Present were:

A. Blauuw,	President
J. G. Bolton,	Vice-President
CH. Fehrenbach,	Vice-President
D. S. Heeschen,	Vice-President
W. Iwanowska,	Vice-President
E. K. Kharadze,	Vice-President
S. van den Bergh,	Vice-President
L. Goldberg,	former President
G. Contopoulos,	former General Secretary
Edith A. Müller,	General Secretary
P. A. Wayman,	Assistant General Secretary
A. Jappel,	Executive Secretary
J. Dankova,	Administrative Secretary

Introductory Note:

The report has been prepared in the order of the items overleaf in the summary list of the Agenda. The documents related to the Agenda and distributed before the meeting have not been included in the present report: they will be kept in the archives of the Union for further reference.

## A G E N D A

1. Opening by the President
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Report by the General Secretary
  - (a) Problems resulting from the XVIth General Assembly
    - Committee of Nominating Committee, and its Working Rules
  - (b) Finances of the Union
    - Placing of \$60.000 into savings accounts
  - (c) Financial Authority
  - (d) Publication policy (Transactions A, B; Highlights; Symposia; contract with Reidel)
  - (e) New Member Country
  - (f) Relations with and Representation in other international organizations
  - (g) Research into extra-terrestrial civilizations
  - (h) China problem and ICSU
4. Meetings
  - (a) Regional Meetings
  - (b) Symposia and Colloquia
  - (c) Co-sponsorship of and representation at meetings of other organizations
  - (d) Young Astronomers' Schools
5. Future of the IAU
6. Any other matter
7. Place and date of the next meeting of the Executive Committee
8. Closing by the President

1. Opening by the President

The President opened the meeting at 14.15 with a word of welcome to the members of the Executive Committee and expressed his satisfaction that all were present, the two advisers included.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The President then passed to the Agenda which was approved as prepared by the General Secretary.

On the proposal of J. G. Bolton the following resolution was adopted: "The Executive Committee expresses its admiration for Leo Goldberg and George Contopoulos for the excellent way they dealt with difficult situations that arose during the General Assembly."

3. Report by the General Secretary

(a) Problems resulting from the XVIth General Assembly

The General Secretary referred to the 10 resolutions formally adopted by the General Assembly and emphasized that Resolution No. 2 on less expensive IAU publications would require the constant attention of the Executive Committee. The other resolutions would have to be notified to those concerned. The resolution on the change of the second sentence of article 12.(a) of the By-laws would be published in Transactions XVI B, Astronomer's Handbook.

The President then informed the meeting that the Nominating Committee had appointed a special sub-committee to work out guide-lines for the admission of new IAU Members. These guide-lines should strive for uniformity of the criteria of admission and provide possibilities for limiting the number of Members. G. Contopoulos remarked that the latter possibility should not be considered. The sub-committee had met in the following composition: J. Kovalevsky, (Chairman), France; F. Kerr, U. S. A.; A. G. Massevich, U. S. S. R.; G. Swarup, India; V. Bumba, Czechoslovakia; S. Ferraz-Mello, Brazil. National Committees had been asked for recommendations.

The sub-committee would work out the new rules and draw up a report to the General Secretary well before the next meeting, hopefully in six months.

(b) Finances of the Union

The General Secretary summarized the report of the Finance Committee to the General Assembly. It will be necessary to place 60,000 \$ onto savings accounts in the United States. L. Goldberg recommended 1 year term deposits where the yield would be about 6% a year.

Bigger gains are only from 5 years upwards, but the continuing inflation and depreciation of money over such long periods must be taken into consideration.

The discussion which followed was summarized by the President and it was resolved to open a 1 year deposit account in the U. S. A. provided no better alternative is found.

(c) Financial Authority

The President said that there was no reason to deviate from the past and on his proposal the Executive Committee delegated the financial authority to the General Secretary, and authorized the Secretariat to take the necessary steps as regards the changes in signature right.

The General Secretary said that she would need for the Union de Banques Suisses a letter by the President confirming her formal election to the post of General Secretary and the right to represent the Union. The Financial Authority of the General Secretary reads as follows:

" The Executive Committee, in the exercise of its responsibility to the General Assembly for the conduct of the finances of the Union, instructs and authorizes the General Secretary as follows:

1. Accounts. The General Secretary, acting as treasurer of the Union, shall be responsible for
  - a) keeping accounts by recording all the Union's receipts and payments
  - b) preparing the financial statement and accounts to be submitted for consideration by the Finance Committee.

These accounts shall be certified by a qualified professional accountant.

2. Budget. Before each General Assembly, the General Secretary shall prepare an estimate of a budget of income and expenditure for the following period, for submission by the Executive Committee to the Finance Committee, and subsequently for approval by the General Assembly.
3. Expenditure within the Budget The General Secretary is authorized to incur expenditure and to make payments, on behalf of the Union, within the provisions of the budget subject to the approval of the Executive Committee in respect to the individual projects for which an overall total sum (for example for Symposia or for unforeseen projects) has been provided in the budget.

The General Secretary is, in particular, authorized to

- a) pay all sums necessary for the efficient conduct of the Administrative Office, including the salaries of the Executive Secretary and other staff;
  - b) negotiate contracts for the printing and publication of the Transactions and other publications of the Union, and make the necessary payments, in accord with any general directives that may, from time to time be given by the Executive Committee.
4. Expenditure outside the Budget. The Executive Committee may authorize the General Secretary to incur expenditure and to make payments, on behalf of the Union, outside the provisions of the budget:
- a) where the budget provision is considered inadequate, because of increased prices, poor estimation or other reasons;
  - b) in respect of new items, the necessity for which has arisen since the General Assembly.
5. Bank Accounts. The General Secretary is responsible for ensuring that all necessary procedures are fulfilled in respect of the Union's current and savings accounts. He may delegate responsibility to the Assistant General Secretary and/or Executive Secretary.
6. Travel and subsistence expenses. The General Secretary, the Assistant General Secretary, as well as the Executive Secretary and other members of the staff, are entitled to the repayment of travel and subsistence expenses in respect of journeys necessarily undertaken on account of the business of the Union. (Travel expenses in connection with meetings of the Executive Committee, Officers' meetings, meetings of the ICSU or similar organizations, or scientific meetings, are paid in accord with the standard ICSU procedures for members of the Executive Committee.)
7. Expense Account. The General Secretary and the Assistant General Secretary are authorized to receive payment, from the funds of the budget, of the reasonable expenses of hospitality necessarily incurred in the conduct of the business of the Union, subject to a maximum of 500 U. S. dollars in any one year."

(d) Publication Policy

The General Secretary reported of the efforts of the outgoing Executive Committee in reducing the price of IAU publications. They succeeded in agreeing with the Publisher to have these publications produced by the off-set method from camera-ready copies which will considerably reduce production costs. Before examining further possibilities of obtaining less expensive publications it would be necessary to await the results of the new arrangements.

In the contract to negotiate with Reidel the question of reprints should be dealt with.

It was noted that all members of the Executive Committee wish to receive free copies of Transactions XVI A and XVI B.

(e) Iraq, the newly admitted Member Country, will be contacted by the Secretariat as to further cooperation.

Algeria and Indonesia are potential candidates as Adhering Countries.

(f) Relations with and Representation in other International Organizations

It was resolved that the General Secretary, E. A. Müller, would succeed the outgoing General Secretary, G. Contopoulos, as IAU representative on the ICSU General Committee from its next term of office on.

In other International Organizations the Union will be represented as follows:

COSPAR:	E. A. Müller
ICSU AB:	J. -C. Pecker
FAGS:	H. Enslin and E. A. Müller
IUCAF:	G. Westerhout and R. Wielebinski
SCOSTEP:	Z. Svestka
SCOPE:	R. Cayrel, J.-C. Pecker
CTS:	L. N. Houziaux
CODATA.	G. A. Wilkins
IUCS:	B. Edlén, J. G. Philips and M. J. Seaton
CCDS:	Wm. Markowitz

CCDM: A. H. Cook  
CCIR: F. G. Smith and H. M. Smith  
COSTED: L. N. Houziaux  
EPS: P. A. Wayman  
BIH: H. Enslin and H. M. Smith  
IUWDS: F. W. Jäger  
QBSA: Organizing Committee of Commission 10  
SBARMO: P. Simon  
IPMS: S. Yumi

Pic-du-Midi: it was agreed to abide by the status quo for 1 more year. Upon recommendation of Prof. Rösch this representation will then be discontinued.

The IAU representatives are to report to the General Secretary regularly.

As regards the ICSU General Assembly, G. Contopoulos informed that on his proposal the point of revision of ICSU Statutes had been put on the Agenda. The proposal was to the effect that an ad hoc committee should be formed to reconsider the Statutes of ICSU in the light of recent developments, with special emphasis on more involvement of scientific unions in the affairs of ICSU. This Committee should include all Unions.

(g) Research into extra-terrestrial civilizations

Sir Bernard Lovell's letter and Prof. Drake's remarks concerning radio-transmissions designed for extra-terrestrial communications and their potential dangerousness were read. It was felt that the problem should be discussed among experts rather than by the IAU. W. Iwanowska suggested that a meeting of specialists should be prepared for the next General Assembly. Such a meeting should have to be as private as possible.

(h) China Problem and ICSU

L. Goldberg said that he had spoken to Miley and Christiansen about their article in the daily bulletin. Though he had emphasized that Taiwan had been admitted to the Union strictly according to the Statutes without any pressure on any part and that the Executive Committee had done everything possible to make the People's Republic of China rejoin the Union, the attitude of Miley and Christiansen could not be changed. They hope that the IAU will put this point on

the Agenda of the next General Assembly, if not they would propose a resolution to this effect. G. Contopoulos remarked that the spirit of how the IAU considers the China problem is included in L. Goldberg's address to the General Assembly. Moreover, he said, China never contacted formally the IAU, it only negotiated with ICSU and perhaps with IUGG. It is doubtful whether ICSU is the mother of the Unions.

It was agreed that the President should, jointly with Ch. Fehrenbach, meet the Chinese cultural attaché in Paris.

As regards Taiwan, it was approved that the Union should continue referring to it as "Taiwan" leaving out the words "Republic of China."

#### 4. Meetings.

(a) The regional meetings approved by the Executive Committee for the years to come are as follows:

- First Latin American Meeting under the auspices of the IAU, La Serena, Chile, January 1978
- First New Zealand Regional Meeting: Time Varying Sources of Radiation within Galaxies, Wellington, New Zealand, 5 - 8 December 1978

The IAU will subsidize either meeting with Sw.fr. 7.500.

As regards the proposed IAU/EPS Regional Meeting to be held in Hungary, 1977, it was resolved to wait for an official notification by the EPS.

The General Secretary said that she had informed G. Khromov of the formalities of how to apply for the approval of a regional meeting in Alma Áta (Tashkent area), 1978.

It was noted with regret that Norway had withdrawn its proposal to hold a regional meeting in Oslo.

E. K. Kharadze emphasized the desirability to hold regional meetings in Europe.

#### (b) Symposia and Colloquia

The Symposia and Colloquia approved for the years to come are as follows:

- Symposium No. 76, "Planetary Nebulae", Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., U.S.A., 6 - 9 June 1977



- Symposium No. 77, "Structure and Properties of Nearby Galaxies, Bad Münstereifel near Bonn (Germany, F.R.), 22 - 26 August 1977.
- Symposium No. 78, "Nutation and the Earth's Rotation", Kiev, U.S.S.R., 23 - 28 July 1977.

The General Secretary stressed the necessity of appointing editors capable of preparing camera-ready copies.

The proposal for a Symposium on the "Structure of the Universe and the Formation of Galaxies", to be held in Tallinn, Estonia, U.S.S.R., 12 - 16 September 1977 was accepted on the condition that it would be adequately financed and the attendance of astronomers from western countries would be assured. S. van den Bergh was added to the SOC.

The Colloquia accepted for the years 1977 - 1978 are as follows:

- Colloquium No. 42, on the "Interaction of Variable Stars with their Environment", Bamberg, Germany, F.R., 6 - 9 September 1977
- Colloquium No. 43, UV and X-ray spectroscopy of Laboratory and astrophysical plasmas", London (U.K.), 4 - 8 July 1977
- Colloquium No. 44, "Solar Prominences and their Environments", Oslo, Norway, 8 - 12 August 1977
- Colloquium No. 45, "Chemical-Dynamical Evolution of our Galaxy", Torun, Poland, early September 1977

Proposed Symposia under consideration are:

- Symposium on "The HR Diagram: The 100th Anniversary of Henry Norris Russell", Albany, N.Y., U.S.A., 22- 25 October 1977
- Symposium on "Refractional influences in Astrometry and Geodesy", Belgrade, Yugoslavia, May 1978

The decision regarding the Albany meeting was deferred to the officers who may approve it if it is supported by and held at the Academy of Sciences in Washington.

The Belgrade Symposium was approved subject to a satisfactory clause regarding participation without discrimination. It was noted that Dr Teleki needs a letter from the General Secretary to this effect.

The Executive Committee rejected the proposal for a Colloquium on "Duplicitity and its Consequences among Intrinsic Variable Stars", Hamilton, New Zealand, August 1978.

Dr Grygar withdrew the proposal to hold a Colloquium on "Photometry of Emission Line Objects" in Hvar, Yugoslavia, October 1977.

(c) Co-sponsorship of and Representation at Meetings of Other Organizations

The Executive Committee approved the IAU cosponsorship of the following meetings:

- COSPAR Symposium on "New Instrumentation for Space Astronomy", Tel Aviv, Israel, June 1977. It was stressed that the meeting should be held in conjunction with the COSPAR Plenary Meeting in Israel rather than in Italy at some other date.

IAU representative on Scientific Organizing Committee: R. M. Bonnet

- COSPAR Symposium on "The Study of Travelling Interplanetary Phenomena" (in memory of L. D. de Feiter), Tel Aviv, Israel, June 1977

IAU representative: W. I. Axford

- COSPAR Symposium on "Atmospheres and Surfaces of the Planets", Innsbruck, Austria, May - June 1978

IAU representative: M. Roy

- SCOSTEP Symposium on "Solar Terrestrial Physics", Innsbruck, Austria May- June 1978

IAU representative: J. Wilcox

Not approved was the IAU cosponsorship of the COSPAR Workshop on "Solar Fluxes" (X-rays to UV), which is a half-day meeting within COSPAR'S Working Group 3 to be held during the COSPAR Plenary Meeting in Israel.

(d) Young Astronomers' Schools

The executive Committee decided that an IAU School for Young Astronomers be organized in Sao José dos Campos, Brazil, in July 1977 with the subject "General Astrophysics", with emphasis on "Stellar and Solar Physics". Director of the School: Prof. L. M. Barreto. An appropriate announcement will be published in the Information Bulletin.

Commission 46 was requested to work out rules for running the Schools. If approved by the E. C. and followed by the organizers of the Schools, then the IAU may sponsor some other Young Astronomers' Schools.

5. Future of the IAU

The President invited the members of the Executive Committee to give thoughts how to conduct the affairs of the Union in the years to come and to forward their ideas so that they could be circulated well in advance before being put on the Agenda of the next meeting.

Discussed was the desirability of changing the structure and content of the General Assemblies, especially as regards the division of administration versus science. Inquiries concerning this subject should be mailed among National Committees of Astronomy.

6. Any Other Matter

- As regards the structure and organization of Commission No. 38 the discussion was deferred to the next meeting of the Executive Committee when the new guide-lines of the Commission would be available. It was noted that D. A. MacRae had been elected President and J. Delhaye Vice President of Commission 38. M. K. V. Bappu had been added to the panel of its Organizing Committee.

A notice on the operation of the Commission will appear in the next Information Bulletin.

- It was agreed to support Dr Svestka's proposal for an extension of the term of office of SCOSTEP until 1980.
- The efforts of ICSU to establish an ICSU Publishing House were recommended to the attention of the General Secretary.
- The formation of a Working Group on Nomenclature in Commission 37 was put on the record.

7. Next Meeting of the Executive Committee

E. K. Kharadze invited the Executive Committee to hold its next meeting in Georgia. The President acknowledged with thanks this invitation, and said that it is welcome for the year 1978.

It was agreed to hold the 1977 meeting in western Europe, from 28 August to 4 September. After the end of the meeting the officers decided to hold the 1977 meeting of the Executive Committee in Geneva, Switzerland.

8. The President closed the Meeting at 18,30.

Geneva, October 1976

Edith A. Müller  
General Secretary