

Minutes of International Council of Ethologists
23 August 2001
XXII International Ethological Conference

(1) The Secretary General welcomed the members of IEC and requested the members to introduce themselves. Dr. Shakunthala Sridhara, the corresponding secretary, volunteered to record the proceedings of the current meeting.

(2) The secretary general informed the house that the minutes of the ICE meetings held during 26th IEC at Bangalore in 1999 were distributed via e-mail and the same was approved.

(3) The secretary general told the meeting that the presentation of plans for the 28th IEC in Brazil during 2003, scheduled for this days meeting is postponed to the council meeting scheduled on 28 August 2001.

(4) Today's meeting, Dr. Jane Brockman informed will mainly focus on the bid to host 2005 IEC at Budapest, Hungary and a vote will be taken on the issue after discussing the presentation.

Accordingly Dr. Vilmos Altbacker, president, Hungarian Ethological Society presented the bid highlighting the following details:

(a) Location : Budapest, capital of Hungary.

Dr. Altbacker provided information on weather in Budapest during the proposed dates, as well as on studies on animal behaviour and ecology carried out in Budapest. The tourist attractions of Hungary are its landscapes, five national parks, its wildlife, which includes 40,000 insect species, roe deer, red deer etc. The welcome reception is proposed in a ship on the river. Public transport is excellent in Budapest. The organizers will provide free transport tickets to the delegates with multiple usage of trams and trains. The department of zoology is situated in a new building and has several different sized lecture halls for plenaries, lectures etc. However only four rooms are air conditioned and equipped with audio-visual equipment. The space available for posters can accommodate 600 posters, making it possible for continuous display of posters throughout the conference period.

(b) Proposed dates: August 2-11, 2005 or August 23-30, 2005

(c) Number of delegates expected: 800

(d) Proposed registration fee US \$ 230. The projected revenue from registration fee and other sources is about US \$ 269, 900. The anticipated expenditure shall be towards rentals of technical equipment, printing and publication, travel funds to 15 plenary speakers, welcome reception and conference dinner and payment to the council at the rate of US \$ 10 per delegate.

It is proposed to hire the services of conference organizers who shall manage all the arrangement except scientific programme, printing and publication.

After much discussion the following clarifications/conclusions were drawn/suggestions made and accepted:

(a) Room rents: US \$ 10 per night in student hostels. In star hotels the rent will start from US \$ 70 per night and upward.

(b) Seed Money: The secretary general informed that the amount debited by the organizers of 28th IEC to the council at the rate of US \$ 10 per delegate shall be made available to the organizer of 29th IEC as seed money. At this juncture Dr. Raimund Afelbach clarified that the amount of 10 dollars/delegate should include only registered delegates and should not include the delegates who are exempted from registration. It was also suggested to reconsider the registration fee i.e. towards raising the amount slightly.

(c) It was suggested that registration amount expected should be limited to 600 delegates and plans should be made to raise extra amount by other means including donations to accommodate 200 more delegates.

(d) It was suggested to subsidize registration fee for Hungarian students and employ them as volunteers.

(e) It was suggested that ethologists other than LOC members should review the abstracts. Minor changes can be effected by the editor.

(f) It was suggested to increase the number of poster presentations to accommodate more papers. A suggestion was also made to organize mini symposia of posters.

(g) It was suggested to install and maintain a website about the conference organization.

(h) Regarding financial assistance to delegates, it was suggested that letter of reference should accompany such requests and the aid will be based on need of the person, representing country and scientific merit of the paper.

(i) It was suggested that the list of plenary speakers be finalized two years in advance in consultation with the Secretary General.

(j) It was suggested that each oral presentation be of 20 minutes and shall include 15 minutes presentation and 5 minutes of discussion so that movement between lecture halls is facilitated.

After the above discussions it was resolved to accept the bid from Hungary to organize the XXIX IEC at Budapest, Hungary during 2005 and the motion was passed to this effect by the Secretary General, Dr. Jane Brockmann. The motion was seconded by Michael Taborsky, the Vice Secretary General.

(5) Discussion on 26th IEC Dr. Shakunthala Sridhara, Secretary of the 26th IEC 1999 explained that the organizers of 26th IEC 1999 could not pay the seed money to the council for the following reasons:

- (a) All students irrespective of nationality were allowed to register at subsidized rates.
- (b) Lunch was provided free of cost during the entire duration of conference.
- (c) The number of plenary speakers was comparatively more and hence higher expenditure towards 50% travel assistance to them.
- (d) Above all, the number of total registered delegates fell far below the anticipated number of 350-400 thus reducing receipts from registration fee.

Dr. Shakunthala Sridhara informed that factually she had to face a deficit budget, the extra expenditure being nearly Rs.2 lakhs (US \$ around 4255) above the receipts which was met by her personal funds, which is not reflected in the audited statement of accounts.

The major expenditure was towards food, publishing, and postage, hiring of technical equipment and 50% travel grant to plenary speakers.

She felt although, publication was expensive, it is worth since in the long run it is the sole, permanent successful record of the conference.

(6) Discussion on future meetings: The venues for 2003 and 2005 have already been announced and decided to be held in Brazil and Hungary, respectively.

Dr. Richard Brown from Canada offered to host the 30th IEC 2007 at the Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He outlined the facilities available with the aid of slides.

(7) Council Membership. It was resolved that the criterion for representation in ICE should be three consecutive participations in the IECs by a country.

At this juncture, the meeting ended to be resumed on 28-08-2001.

Minutes from the 28 August 2001 meeting.

(1) The main agenda for the meeting was presentation of plans for IEC Meetings in 2003 in Brazil by Dr. Cesar Ades. Dr. Aedes with the help of slides gave the following information:

(a) Location of 28th IEC: Shall be at Florianopolis, situated in the southern tip of Brazil at a distance of 705 km from Sao Paulo, 1539 km from Buenos Aires and 1355 km from Montevideo. It is Part Island, part continental and is one of the most important cities of Brazil. It has a federal university and is flanked by 42 beaches. The temperature ranges 12-20°C.

(b) Dates and Duration: August 20-27, 2003. 8 days. Three days of sessions each before and after mid conference tour.

(c) LOC: Constituted with seven members.

(d) Accommodation: There are two hundred hotels of several categories ranging from low priced to more expensive. The tariff ranges from 23 to 96 US \$ the range being 23-31-52-55-96 US \$. Attempts are being made to provide low priced housing to students. The travel Agency hired by the organizers will handle hotel reservations. The members of the council requested the organizers to provide free transportation to delegates from hotels/ dormitories.

(e) Concessional airfare: Negotiations are under with several flight companies for concessional airfare to delegates.

(f) Convention center: Centrosul is the convention center and is hired for 10 days. It is on the beach with lot of hotels at a walking distance. The bus depot is nearly so also the market place.

There are three big halls, which can be merged into a large one by removing the dividing walls. This big hall can accommodate 1000 delegates and shall be used for morning sessions of inauguration and plenaries. There are two supply rooms. Six additional halls are convenient for concurrent sessions.

The attached restaurant can cater to 800 people. A single meal costs US \$ 3 or 4. Additionally, there is a cafeteria, which can accommodate 30-40 people. Downtown is easily approachable for meals.

There is a large hall, big enough to hold the entire poster sessions concurrently. Coffee breaks are planned near the poster hall.

Small halls are available for rounds tables, small meetings.

Facilities for computer and Internet are available.

Space for exhibition and displays available.

(g) Mid conference tours to islands, beaches etc will be organized by the travel agents.

(h) A website about the conference will be created to give information about the conference.

The presentation was discussed and following suggestions / decisions were made:

(a) Length of conference should be kept optimal to minimize hiring charges.

(b) Arrangements in the evening to facilitate interactions.

- (c) The authors must indicate their option for poster presentation.
- (d) Provision be made to facilitate discussion with plenary speakers in small rooms.
- (e) Possibility of including workshops be explored.
- (f) Selection of plenary speakers should be based on global and gender representation.

The council members are requested to give suggestion regarding plenary speakers to the LOC.

(2) Election of Secretary General elect and Treasurer of IEC: Michael Taborsky and Robert Elwood were unanimously elected as Secretary General elect and Treasurer respectively.

(3) Future Meeting Sites: The 2005 Meetings have been decided to be held at Budapest, Hungary. Richard Brown from Canada would like to host the 2007 Meetings at Halifax, Nova Scotia. The facilities available at the Dalhousie University were presented in the council meeting held on .23-08-2001.

Rennes, France is a potential site for 2009 Meetings, 40 years after the first meeting there.

(4) Council Membership: Gabriello Francescoli was inducted as council member representing Uruguay

A motion was passed to include representation from Uruguay, Czechoslovakia and Portugal in the council

(5) History of ICE: Lee Drickamer volunteered to create an archive on the history and past secretary general of the International Council of Ethologists.

(6) Publishing of Abstract Book: In view of both strong opposition and support for publishing abstracts, a vote was taken. Twelve voted for printing and six for publishing. However it was decided to leave the final decision to the organizers.

(7) Any other matter: Council members were requested to send the e-mail address of their respective ethological societies.

With this last item, the meeting came to the end.

Submitted by
Shakunthala Sridhara
