

Minutes of the IEC Council meeting,
3rd August, 1999.
Bangalore, India.

Agenda Item 1. Welcome and Introduction of Delegates.

The meeting was called to order at 2040h by Dr Marion Dawkins. The delegates all introduced themselves and Dr Dawkins welcomed the group.

Present were:

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Jane Brockmann | USA | hjb@zoo.ufl.edu |
| Jan van Hoof | Netherlands | J.A.R.A.M.vanHoof@Bio.uu.nl |
| Lee Drickamer | USA | Lee.Drickamer@nau.edu |
| Torben Dabelsteen | Denmark | tdabelsteen@zi.ku.dk |
| Jannsz Wojtusiak | Poland | wojt@zuk.iz.uj.edu.pl |
| Shakunthala Sridhara | India | sridhara@blr.vsnl.net.in |
| S.H. Sridhara | India | sridhara@blr.vsnl.net.in |
| Martine Hausberger | France | Martine.hausberger@univ-rennes1.fr |
| Jean-Christophe Sandoz | France | jean.sandoz@bbsrc.ac.uk |
| Michael Taborsky | Austria | M.Taborsky@klivv.oeaw.ac.at |
| Tom Groothuis | Netherlands | T.Groothuis@biol.rug.nl |
| Fritz Trillmich | Germany | Fritz.Trillmich@biologie.uni-bielefeld.de |
| Raimund Apfelbach | Germany | Raimund.Apfelbach@uni-tuebingen.de |

Agenda Item 2. Minutes of the Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were presented in the Newsletter.

Agenda Item 3. Comments from the Host Committee

Dr Sridhara briefly updated the Meeting on the Bangalore conference. There were over 400 delegates from 39 countries and no major problems to report.

Agenda Item 4. Consideration of the Bid to Host IEC 2003 in Brazil.

Since Dr C. Ades was not present to discuss the bid from Brazil for the 2003 meeting, the Meeting moved to the next item. Dr Ades will be asked to attend the next Council meeting.

Agenda Item 5. Conference venue for 2005

No bid has been received for the 2005 meeting. By tradition, this should be a European venue. A discussion ensued regarding possibilities and it was agreed that Hungary would be asked if they would like to lodge another bid. We should have a definite bid by the Tuebingen meeting.

Agenda Item 6. Presentation of Particulars for 2001 Conference in Germany

Dr R. Apfelbach reported on arrangements for the Tuebingen meeting. The physical layout is excellent with one large lecture hall holding 900 and 12 to 15 lecture all holding 300 to 400 each, so the venue will be able to handle up to 1000 delegates. The financial situation for the conference is extremely bright. The lecture halls and projection equipment will be provided free by the University and the conference has been awarded 50000 DM by the German Science Foundation which will support the plenary speakers. Further, Dr Apfelbach also hopes to raise money from German industry for some symposia and plenary sessions. All this has resulted

in a low registration fee which will encourage more delegates to attend, especially students. There is already a local organising committee appointed.

He plans 12 plenary sessions and has already begun to write them. The topics planned so far will be multimodal communication, competition and cooperation, new trends in ethology (behavioural pharmacology and behavioural immunology), from genes to complex behaviour (genetics and behavioural ethology), olfaction. The hope is that these sessions will bring together areas not covered by ethology. A discussion ensued about the topics. Suggestions included sexual selection, more behavioural ecology, celebration of the 25th anniversary of Sociobiology, a broader range of speakers based on gender and national origin.

Agenda Item 7. Financial Status of the IEC

The financial condition of the IEC is excellent. According to tradition, a sum of \$US 6000 is sent to the host to get the conference under way. The host is then expected to raise a matching \$US 6000 ant to pay the IEC \$US 10 per delegate. Because of the strong financial position of the IEC, it was agreed that, in the future, more IEC funds could be used to bring delegates from developing nations to the conference. Dr Dawkins proposed that the Indians should retain their contribution to the IEC and use it to fund Indian participation at future meetings. Dr Sridhara said that this was most generous but that she would like some mechanism for distributing the funds. After some discussion, Dr Drickamer suggested that Indian delegates wishing to participate at the next conference should apply to Dr Apfelbach just like any other conference and when an invitation is accepted then funds from the Bangalore conference will be used. It was aggredd that this would be the solution and that the Secretary-General write up an agreement to this effect.

Agenda Item 8. Officers of the IEC

Two posts are vacant on the IEC Council. These are Recording Secretary (formerly Dr P.A. Gowaty) and Corresponding Secretary (formerly Dr M.A. Elgar). Dr Dawkins will take nominations and a decision will be made at the next meeting.

Other Business

1. South American representation

Because of the increased participation of South American countries in the IEC, Dr Dawkins proposed that the number of delegates to the Council be increased from one to four including one delegate from each of Brazil, Chile and Argentina and one from all other countries. She also proposed one further delegate be added from Mexico. The Council agreed and Dr Dawkins will contact delegates from these countries.

2. Publication of XXVI IEC proceedings

The hosts of the Bangalore conference are planning to publish a proceedings of the XXVI IEC as a four-volume proceedings based on papers written by the plenary speakers. The session convenors and Dr Sridhara would co-edit the volumes and some Indian publishers have expressed interest in the project. Dr Dawkins led a discussion on this suggestion. Various members expressed concerns about the amount of work involved in what is a very ambitious project, about the inevitable time delay between the end of the conference and publication, particularly as none of the speakers have prepared their manuscript as yet. There was also concern that, since the name of the IEC would be used that it must be a success and that the IEC ensure that its interests are protected. Dr Drickamer proposed that the Indian

hosts come to the next Council meeting with a specific proposal which they agreed to do.

Meeting adjourned at 2140h.

Meeting reconvened at 1705h, DATE????

Further delegates present were:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Xavier Domingo-Roura | Spain | xavier.domingo@cexs.upf.es |
| Gunilla Rosenqvist | Norway | Gunilla.rosenqvist@chembio.ntnu.no |
| Kasuki Tsuji | Japan | tsuji@sci.toyama-u.ac.jp |
| Yukimaru Sugiyama | Japan | sugiyama@tokaigakuen-u.ac.jp |
| Richard Brown | Canada | rebrown@as.dal.ca |
| Cesar Ades | Brazil | cares@usp.br |
| Bob Elwood | UK | r.elwood@qub.ac.uk |
| Chris Barnard | UK | christopher.barnard@nottingham.ac.uk |
| Bob Kilgour | Australia | bob.kilgour@agric.nsw.gov.au |

Agenda Item 4 (Continued)

Dr Cesar Ades registered the strong interest that Brazil has in organising the 2003 conference. He briefly outlined Brazil's history in animal behaviour research and the scientific societies that would take part in the organisation of the meeting. He also stated the wish that it should not be solely a Brazilian conference but a Latin American effort including countries such as Chile, Uruguay and Argentina.

The venue that is envisaged is Iguazu Falls in the south of Brazil and the proposed time of the year is August. Iguazu Falls is a small city surrounded by significant natural beauty. There are several big hotels that are already interested in being a part of the conference. These have auditoriums that would be suitable as presentation venues. There are several hotels ranging in price and the idea would be to negotiate so as to offer three levels of accommodation. Sao Paulo is also a possible venue but it is very big with a population of ten million.

The discussion that ensued pointed out possible disadvantages of Iguazu Falls, despite its undoubted beauty. Firstly, the cost of flying there is expensive and, secondly, the venue is 20 km from the centre of the city. Taxi is the only way there and they are expensive. Sao Paulo and Florianopolis were suggested as better venues as there is a much greater chance of attracting 500 to 600 delegates rather than possibly 150 at Iguazu Falls. The feeling was that a venue where there are university lecture halls and good facilities is far preferable. The feeling, also, was that Sao Paulo was not a nice place for such a meeting.

The discussion then revolved around cost, emphasising the need to keep these low so as to involve Brazilian students. Prices need to be negotiated and be binding so that there is not an unplanned increase two years later. It was suggested that the organisers put forward two or three options to be debated.

The meeting resolved to approve, in principle, the holding of the conference in Brazil in 2003 and for a firm package to be decided upon by one year from now by Council by e-mail.

Dr Ades also sought guidance on the length of the meeting. The consensus was that there is no time limit but that mid-August should be avoided. The history of the format has tended to be the same as Bangalore, namely, three days of conference sessions, one day break, three more days of sessions. There was a bit of debate about whether the conference is too long, but this was not pursued.

Agenda Item 6 (Continued)

Dr Raimund Apfelbach presented further information to the Meeting. The major body responsible for the organisation of the meeting is the Institut für Zoologie, in particular the faculties of Animal Physiology, Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuropharmacology. He also presented details of the 12 members of the local organising committee. Six plenary sessions are planned with two speakers in each. Five of these plenary sessions have been determined while the sixth is still under discussion.

Tübingen, although only a city of 85000 people has the second oldest university in Germany and caters for 25000 students. The organisers are counting on 600 delegates. A reduced fee is planned for students and delegates from developing countries. There is no on-campus accommodation. However, there is a youth hostel on campus and local hotels range in price from \$US 40 to \$US 150.

There was general support for the proposal with the venue and the price attracting particularly favourable comment. It was recommended that there be a substantial price gap between early and late registration in order to encourage early registration. One possible problem is the possibility of limiting numbers of delegates if numbers rose above 1000. There is also a need for suggestions for the sixth plenary session within the next three months. The male bias in the plenary speakers was, again, underlined.

It was decided that Dr Apfelbach deliver the invitation to Tübingen at 1215h during the plenary session on Monday next (9th August).

Agenda Item 5 (Continued)

Some further discussion ensued on the venue for 2005. It was agreed that the Council will contact Hungary to give them first refusal. If they refuse, contact with delegates will be made by e-mail so that plans for the 2005 meeting can be in place by the 2001 meeting. Halifax was raised as a possibility since it has new university buildings and a growing local eco-tourism industry.

Agenda Item 8 (Continued)

Corresponding Secretary: The only nomination was Shakunthala Sridhara who was elected unopposed.

Recording Secretary: Two nominations were received, Kimberly Phillips (USA) and Bob Kilgour (Australia). Bob Kilgour was elected.

Other Business.

2. Publication of XXVI IEC proceedings

Dr Shakunthala Sridhara outlined the proposal to publish some of the proceedings of the conference and outlined some of the progress that had been made towards publication. The proposal is that this will involve mostly the plenary sessions and related topics. Dr Sridhara will be the overall editor and individual editors of the four volumes were to be Dr Don Broom, Dr Michael Robinson and Dr Robert Johnston with the fourth editor yet to be determined.

Dr Dawkins then asked for comments on the proposal. In general, people thought that it was a good initiative but were taken aback by the progress that had already been made. A major reservation was that a publication of proceedings should reflect the whole conference rather than be the selection that is proposed.

There were also comments from people who had tried to do this in the past. One of the major problems is that the response from the plenary presenters is not 100%. This is further exacerbated by problems of prior publication and copyright which result in refusals.

The meeting resolved that any publication be selected papers from or a book based on papers presented at the XXVI IEC conference but that it should not be an official publication of the IEC.

Dr Jane Brockmann then took over a Secretary-General. Her first task was to select a vice Secretary-General as an appointed position who will later become Secretary-General Elect and hold the position for two conferences. The vice Secretary-General is to be Michael Taborsky.

Dr Lee Drickamer then moved a motion of thanks to Dr Sridhara and all her colleagues involved in the organisation of the Bangalore meeting. This received rousing support from the Council.

Dr Jane Brockmann closed the meeting at 1830h.