



Minutes of ISPRS General Assemblies XIXth ISPRS Congress Amsterdam, The Netherlands

First General Assembly Sunday, 13.00–17.00 16th July 2000

1. Presidents Welcome

President Fritz welcomed all Delegates, advisors and observers to the General Assembly of XIXth ISPRS Congress. He introduced the members of the Council, the Financial Commission, Honorary Member Prof. Gottfried Konecny and the Secretariat Staff.

2. Introduction of Invited Persons

President Fritz welcomed as invited guests to the General Assembly, the President, Prof. Bengt Rystedt and Secretary/Treasurer Prof. Ferjan Ormeling of the International Cartographic Association (ICA), The Director of the International Hydrographic Society (IHO) RADM Neil Guy and the Chairman Mr. Alex Tuyahov and Executive Officer Prof. Charles Hutchison of the International Center for Remote Sensing of Environment (ICORSE).

3. Certification of Delegate Credentials

Secretary General Trinder called the roll of Ordinary, Associate and Regional Members. ~~There were 7 Ordinary, 7 Associate, 7 and 7 Regional Members present.~~

4. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved by the General Assembly.

5. Explanation of Voting Rights

Secretary General Trinder explained that Ordinary Members must have paid their subscription fees for the years up to and including 1999 to be eligible to vote in the General Assembly. At this first General Assembly there were 64 Ordinary Members entitled to vote, representing 197 votes.

6. Admission of New Members

President Fritz presented a Certificate of Ordinary Membership to the Delegate from Bangladesh, Environment and GIS Support Project for Water Sector Planning (EGIS-II).

GA approved the
The application for Regional Membership from South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) ~~was approved.~~

7. Changes of Category

by acclamation the increase of Ordinary Members from cat 3 to 4 of C-T and from cat 6 to 7 of China.
The General Assembly approved the change of category of the Ordinary Member from ChinaTaipei ~~from category 3 to category 4~~ and of Ordinary Member China from category 6 to category 7.

~~The changes were approved by the General Assembly by acclamation.~~



The Ordinary Member from South Africa sought approval to reduce its category 5 to category 2. The decision on this request was deferred for later consideration pending supporting evidence.

8. Members in Default

President Fritz stated that a number of members were seriously in default of payment of their subscriptions. The Financial Commission concurs that Council takes action on these Members. The President outlined several actions that Council may take on these defaulting Members, possibly leading to the "unpleasant task" of cancellation of membership. The GA was requested to offer a motion for action.

9. Approvals and Ratifications of Council Activities

9.1 New Awards

1st Vice President Murai presented two new awards ~~that were~~ approved by Council for ratification by the General Assembly:

- 1) "The U.V. Helava Award" jointly supported by LH Systems and Elsevier Science B.V. for the most outstanding papers published in the Journal.
- 2) "The Gino Cassinis Award" supported by the Societa Italiana di Fotogrammetria e Topografia for individuals significantly enhancing the mathematical and statistical foundations of photogrammetry, remote sensing or spatial science.

These Awards were ratified by the General Assembly.

9.2 Donations

Treasurer R  ther presented details of donations received by ISPRS ~~for GA ratification~~:

- 1) Donation of SwF 12,500 from the Japan Society of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing and SwF 7,500 from the "Joint ISPRS/EARSeL Workshop, Valladolid 99" to support the Young Authors Awards.
- 2) A donation of ¥500,000 (approximately US\$4,500) from Central Computer Service of Japan to support the 2nd Computer Aided Teaching (CATCON2) software contest.

The Donations were ratified by the General Assembly.

9.3 Memorandums of Understanding

President Fritz presented three formal ISPRS agreements ~~for GA ratification~~:

- 1) Memorandum of Understanding with UN Office of Outer Space Affairs (OOSA).
- 2) Letter of Intent for Closer Collaboration with the International Centre for Remote Sensing of Environment (ICORSE).
- 3) Letter of Intent for Closer Collaboration with the Geographical Information Science (GISc) Study Group of the International Geographical Union.

The agreements were ratified by the General Assembly.



9.4 Guidelines

Secretary General Trinder presented ~~for GA ratification~~, a new guidelines document, the "Manual of Operation for ISPRS Technical Commissions and Working Groups" (Orange Book), and the following new and/or revised Guidelines:

- Guidelines for Members Planning to Host an ISPRS Congress
- Guidelines for Candidates for Members of the Council
- Guidelines for ISPRS Financial Commission (new)
- Guidelines for ISPRS Council Spending Policy (new)
- ISPRS Awards Policy (new)
- Guidelines for Preparation of National Reports for Amsterdam Congress 2000
- Terms of Reference for Sustaining Members

The Guidelines were ratified by the General Assembly.

9.5 Contracts

President Fritz presented three contracts for GA ratification:

- 1) Elsevier Science, publisher of the *ISPRS International Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing* for period 2000-2004. The President strongly supported this contract as it was at no cost to the Society with improved services. *significantly*
- 2) GITC bv, publisher of *ISPRS Highlights*. Secretary General Trinder has not finalized this contract but Council is close to agreement with GITC. Ratification in advance was sought.
- 3) Financial Consultant, Ms Susan Curtis-Pugh to assist the Treasurer and Council with financial management and planning.

The GA ratified the contracts.

10. Presentation of Strategic Plan

President Fritz presented the Strategic Plan for the Society, which has been developed and initiated by Council. A summary copy of the document "ISPRS – A Strategic Plan for the 21st Century" was distributed to all Delegates for discussion and approval. *with multiple presentations on the made and time presentation*

11. Member Proposals to Host the 20th Congress in 2004

The following Ordinary Members presented their *proposed* venue and *candidate for* Congress Director ~~proposals for hosting the 20th ISPRS Congress in 2004.~~

China proposed Beijing and Prof. Yang Kai
Spain proposed Barcelona and Mr. Jaume Miranda
Turkey proposed Istanbul and Prof. Orhan Altan

12. Proposed Amendments to the Statutes and Bylaws

Delegates were provided with an annotated version of the Statutes and Bylaws showing proposed changes and rationale, which 2nd Vice President Barbosa



summarized for the GA. Delegates were requested to submit further modifications for GA consideration in written form to the 2nd VP within 24 hours.

13. Discussion of Amendments to the Statutes and Bylaws

The EARSeL Representative spoke against the change from "Ordinary Member" to "National Member". He stated that ISPRS wishes to unite all Societies irrespective of political issues. Second Vice President Barbosa noted that the proposed changes had already been circulated to members and no adverse comments had been made.

The Delegate from Switzerland congratulated the Council on most of the changes but also spoke against the change from "Ordinary Member" to "National Member". He felt that the term "National Member" was old fashioned and would lead to confusion with Associate Membership. The suggested term was "Regular Members".

The Delegate from China supported the comment by the EARSeL Delegate. He remarked that a "National Member" would indicate that there could only be one member per country. President Fritz stated that ISPRS is not a political organization and that the term "Ordinary" is somewhat derogatory in the English language.

The Delegate from USA noted that 25% of their membership comes from outside the USA.

The Delegate from UK asked for their Resolution on Bylaws XIII to be circulated. *for improving effectiveness of existing Commission arrangements*

The Delegate from Australia asked for confirmation that in future, there would be a contract for the Congresses with a guaranteed return to the Society. The response was in the affirmative.

The Delegate from Austria commented that it was reasonable for the Society to receive some return from the Congress, but the Society should provide "seed" money. Second Vice President Barbosa stated that the organizers for the next Congress would receive an interest free loan of up to Swf 100,000. *to be offered* *the next future*

The Delegate from Sweden stated that Statute I seemed to place international cooperation before science.

The Delegate for Switzerland asked whether Bylaw XIII.10 would force Commission Presidents to have a Working Group for each Resolution relating to the Commission. The President stated that all resolutions must be addressed by the Commissions or by Council, but not necessarily by creating a specific Working Group.

The first General Assembly adjourned at approximately 5pm.



Second General Assembly Tuesday, 15.00-18.00 18th July 2000

1. Presidents Welcome

President Fritz welcomed Honorary Member Prof. Friedrich Ackermann, ITC Rector, Prof. Karl Harmsen, the CEO of LH-Systems Mr. Bruce Wald, CEO of LH Systems, winners of awards and other guests.

6. Admission of New Members

Certificates of ~~Ordinary~~ ^{Ordinary} Membership in good standing were presented to Delegates of new Members from Botswana, Departments of Surveys and Mapping, and El Salvador, Instituto Geográfico Nacional. ^{the stat}

The GA approved ^{Category(?) 2?} Associate Membership for The Russian Public Organization "Society of Contribution to the Development of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing".

7. Changes of Category

Council reviewed the request from South Africa to decrease membership from category 5 to 2 and did not support it. The President asked whether a donor organization could be sought to support category 5 membership. The Delegate from South Africa stated that the reasons for the application were purely financial. They have only 146 members and no support from Government. The application had been sent 6 months ago and since then the Society had amalgamated with another society. This may alleviate the problem. The GA agreed to defer any decision for reduction of category of membership. ^{request for decrease} ^{for 6 months} ^{6 months pending}

14. Presentation of Awards

14.1 The Samuel Gamble Awards were presented by Treasurer Rütther to:

- Dr. Adigun A. Abiodun, Senior Special Assistant to the President on Space Science & Technology, Nigeria and former UN Expert on Space Applications (in absentia)
- Prof. Bruce Forster (Australia), Professor of Geomatics at the University of New South Wales

14.2 The Eduard Dolezal Awards were presented by President Fritz and the representative of the Austrian Society for Surveying and Geoinformation, Prof. Karl Kraus to:

- Dr. I. Katzarsky, Bulgaria
- Dr. U.R. Rao, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), India
- Parviz Tarikhi, Iranian Remote Sensing Centre (IRSC) Iran

14.3 Helava Runner-up Certificates were presented by Treasurer Rütther and Mr. Bruce Wald, CEO of LH Systems to:

- 1997 Best Paper Award: Liang Tang, Josef Braun, Rasmus Debitch ^{font ch}
- 1998 Best Paper Award: E. Jeroen Huising, Luisa M. Gomes Pereira
- ~~Not all authors were present and I believe some of these were in absentia please check~~ 1999 Best Paper Award: V. Sequeira, K. Ng, E. Wolfart, J.G.M. Gonçalves, D. Hogg



3. Certification of Delegate Credentials

Secretary General Trinder called the roll. There were 49 Ordinary Members present representing 182 votes.

~~Either this 182 is incorrect or the first election vote under 15. of 183 is incorrect. Please correct or explain in the minutes.~~

15 Election of Host for 2004 Congress

The Secretary General explained the voting procedure.

summing to

(2 drop invalid ballot?)

1st Ballot

China	64	
Spain	45	eliminated
Turkey	73	
Invalid	1	

2nd Ballot

China	69
Turkey	113

to the Turkish National Society for P & R S.

The 2004 Congress is awarded to Turkey and will convene in Istanbul during (date?)

The Delegate from Turkey and the Congress Director designate Prof. Orhan Altan both gave short speeches of thanks.

16. Reports of Council

(The complete text of the Reports of the President, Secretary General, Treasurer, Congress and Financial Commission were provided to the Delegates and ~~are~~ printed in these Archives.) *Vol. A of the* *will be*

16.1 President

President Fritz presented his report for his term of office while the first ballot was being counted.

16.3 Treasurer

Treasurer Rütger presented the *1996-1999* Financial Report while the second ballot was being counted.

17 Ratification of Congress Director

The appointment of Prof. Orhan Altan as the Congress Director was ratified by acclamation.

The President informed the losing delegations of their rights to apply for other Council positions or for hosting Commissions.

18 Discussion of the Strategic Plan

There was no discussion from the floor and the Plan was approved by acclamation.

19 Nominations for Council

The President explained that at least three current members of the Council must be new appointments.

Nominations received were:



President: J Trinder (Australia)
Secretary General: I. Dowman (UK)
Second Vice President: G. Bengi (France)
Treasurer: A Peled (Israel)

Since there were no competing nominations, the new Council members were declared elected by acclamation. The President formally presented the new Council to the General Assembly.

The Delegate from Egypt commented on the gender imbalance on the new Council. The President noted that two women had served on recent Councils and that there was no implied or intended gender bias by the Council nor could Council make nominations. The Secretary General stated that it was the responsibility of the Ordinary Members to nominate candidates for positions on the Council and the Members should consider this issue. He encouraged Members to nominate more women for positions on the Council for the 2004-2008 term.

20 Decision on Amendments to Statutes and Bylaws

Second Vice President Barbosa presented a summary of the written comments and suggestions received from France, Japan and Mexico. *As a result he stated that:*

- Bylaw VI.2 ^(b) wording has been changed to "less than 51" for Associate Membership category 1. [^]
- Statute VI.1 Council agreed to withdraw the change of name of "Ordinary Members" to "National Members". There was no further discussion of this amendment from the floor.
- ~~A proposal was made by Mexico~~ ^{made by Mexico} regarding Statute I. Council offered no opinion on this proposal. ^{made by Mexico}

Sweden was informed that their proposed amendment to Statute I must be submitted in writing to the 2nd VP if they wished it to be considered at the 3rd session of the General Assembly.

All amendments to Statutes and Bylaws were approved by the General Assembly, except for Statute I, the approval of which was deferred until the 3rd session of the General Assembly.

21 Member Proposals to Host the Technical Commissions for 2000-2004

China announced that they have changed their proposal for Commission IV to Commission II while retaining their nomination of Prof. Chen Jun ~~as~~ ^{for} Commission President.

~~Therefore,~~ The following Members ~~have~~ ^{which included of this Commission plan, finance and (symposium venue).} proposed to host Technical Commissions and each gave short presentation in support of their proposals (proposed Symposium venue):

Technical Commission I:

Germany, Dr H. Ziemann as President (Berlin)



USA, Prof. S. Morain as President (Denver or Portland)

Technical Commission II:

Switzerland, Prof. O. Koelbl as President (Lucerne)

China, Prof. Chen Jun as President (Beijing)

Technical Commission III:

Austria, Prof. F. Leberl as President (Graz)

Technical Commission IV:

Canada, Dr C. Armenakis as President (Ottawa)

The Netherlands, Prof. M. Molenaar as President (Delft)

Technical Commission V:

Greece, Prof. P. Patias as President (Corfu)

Technical Commission VI:

Brazil, Dr T. M. Sausen as President (Rio de Janeiro)

Technical Commission VII:

India, Dr R. R. Navalgund as President (Hyderabad)

Japan, Prof. Y. Yasuoka as President (Tokyo)

The session adjourned at approximately 6pm.

Third General Assembly 15.00 – 18.00 Thursday, 20th July 2000

1. Presidents Welcome

President Fritz welcomed Honorary Members F. Ackermann and G. Konecny, former President Kennert Torlegård, Dr. Hans van Ginkel, UN Under-Secretary-General and Rector of the UN University, and other guests.

14. Awards

First Vice President Murai presented the Young Authors Award ~~certificates~~ to:

Babak Ameri Germany

Ansgar Brunn, Germany

Marc Honikel, Switzerland

Jun Li, Canada

Satya Priya, Japan

Jochen Schiewe, Germany

Gary Zalmanson, USA

6. Admission of New Members

The new Associate Members, the Indian International Cartographic Association and The Russian Public Organization "Society of Contribution to the Development of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing were presented with membership certificates.



Applications for Associate Membership from Iran from the Jihad/ITC/KN Toosi Joint Education Program, and the Tehran Geographic Information Centre were approved. *Category 1?*
ASIM Ext 1?

7. Changes of Category

The Delegate from Indonesia requested a change in category from 4 to 1. The current political and economic situation meant that members and sponsors were decreasing. The Delegate agreed that when the current economic problems were resolved and sponsors could be found, they would return to category 4. The request was approved with no objections from the floor.

20. Amendments to Statutes and Bylaws *summary*

An amendment to Statute I proposing that international cooperation should be secondary to promotion of ~~R&D, education and training~~ was presented by Sweden. The Netherlands and Mexico supported the amendment. President Fritz spoke against the amendment, stating that the foremost reason for the founding of ISPRS was international cooperation. Azerbaijan proposed a change of wording of the Swedish amendment. USA supported the original version of Statute proposed by the Council. Sweden thanked The Netherlands for its support and spoke further to the amendment.

The President asked for a vote by hands whether a ballot vote should be taken or consideration deferred. The hand vote indicated that a ballot vote be taken.

3. Certification of Credentials

Secretary General Trinder called the roll. There were 49 ~~eligible~~ Ordinary Members present representing 182 votes. *eligible to vote*

16.2 Report of Secretary General

While votes were being counted, the Secretary General delivered his report.

20. Amendment to Statute I (cont)

The results of the vote were:

Council version: 92

Swedish version: 65

Invalid: 8

Abstentions: 17

The proposed amendment by Sweden was defeated and the version of Statute I proposed by Council was approved. Due to the closeness of the vote, the President urged the incoming Council to review this Statute again during the next term.

22. Election of President

23. Election of Secretary General

24. Election of Treasurer

25. Election of Second Vice President



These elections were not needed as only one nomination was received for each Council position and the nominees had been declared elected on Tuesday 18 July. The incoming President delivered his acceptance speech.

Prof. John Turner

26. Appointment of the First Vice President

The President said that he would be honoured to accept the position of 1st Vice President in the new Council.

27. Election of Technical Commissions 2000-2004

The following Members were elected unopposed to host Technical Commissions.

Commission III: Austria, Prof. F. Leberl as President

Commission V: Greece, Prof. P. Patias as President

Commission VI: Brazil, Dr. T. M. Sausen as President

Ballot votes were taken for Members to *bidding the other* Commission ~~I, II, IV, and VII~~. The results were as follows:

Commission I

USA: 122

Germany: 60

USA was elected to host Commission I, with Prof. S. *Stanley* Morain as President.

Commission II

China: 93

Switzerland: 89

China was elected to host Commission II, with Prof. Chen Jun as President.

Commission IV

Canada: 99

Netherlands: 84

Canada was elected to host Commission IV, with Dr C. *Armenakis* as President

Please review the ballot sheets and make proper change here. There were only 182 eligible votes present!

Commission VII

India: 113

Japan: 67

Abstentions: 2

India was elected to host Technical Commission VII, with Dr. R. *anagnost* Navalgund as President

28. Nominations for Chair and Members of the Financial Commission

33. Election of Chair and Members of the Financial Commission The following nominees were elected unopposed.

Chair: Prof. H. *Heintz* Ruther (South Africa)

Members: Iffat Huque (Bangladesh)

Ms. Dr. M. Barbosa (Brazil)



29. Discussion on Members in Default of Contributions

The Delegate from UK proposed that Council is to exhaust all ^{reasonable} means to communicate with the defaulting Member to determine the Member's situation, its viability and its level of ability to meet its ISPRS responsibilities. If the Member proves to be unviable, then Council is to recommend to the GA that the Membership should be cancelled as per Bylaw IV.1.g. The Delegate from Switzerland proposed that Council is to communicate with the Members in default and provide six months for the Member to submit payment or a promise for payment or their Membership shall be cancelled. } ^{sp} copy got 2

30. Report on Inter-Organizational Relations

While votes for Commission I were counted, the Secretary General delivered the report on Inter-Organizational Relations.

31. Reports on Communications

31.1 Journal

The Editor Dr. M. Baltsavias presented his report while votes for Commission II were counted.

31.2 ISPRS Highlights

The Editor Dr L Janssen presented his report while votes for Commission IV were counted.

31.3 Home Page

The Webmaster Dr A. Streilein presented his report while votes for Commission VII were counted.

32. Recognition of Editors and Committee Chairs

Secretary General Trinder presented Certificates of Appreciation to:

- Dr. M. Baltsavias, Editor of the *ISPRS International Journal of Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing*
- Dr. L. Janssen, Editor of ISPRS Highlights
- A. Streilein, ISPRS Web Master ^(in absentia)

The President presented Certificates of Appreciation to the Financial Commission Chair, Prof. Armin Gruen, and Members, Anders Boberg and Dr. Ivan Katzarsky ^{and} ~~The President presented a Certificates of Appreciation to the Chair of the Education and Training Task Force, Dr Tania Maria Sausen, and noted that similar Certificates would be delivered to the Chair of the Communications Task Force, Mr. K. Atkinson and to the Chair of the International Policy Advisory Committee, Prof. R. Harris.~~ ^{He stated} The session adjourned at approximately 430 p.m. ^{sp H}



Fourth General Assembly Saturday, 1500-1700 22nd July 2000

1. Presidents Welcome

President Fritz welcomed distinguished guests and introduced Prof. Tuan-Chi Chen, who prepared the dynamic version of the logo for display at this GA.

34. Congress Director's Report

The Congress Director, Prof. Klaas Jan Beek, presented his report and evaluation of the Congress.

35. Approval of Resolutions for 2000-2004

The Resolutions for 2000-2004 were presented by Vice President Murai and approved by the General Assembly, after ~~some~~ discussion and modification to some of the proposals. *First VP Maroni expressed appreciation to the Resolution Committee of Prof. Claus Fritze, Isabelle Villet and Prof. Hans-Peter Bahr for their excellent service as members of the Res. Committee.*

36. Report of Financial Commission

The Chairman of the Financial Commission, Prof. Gruen, presented the report of the Commission.

37. Unit of Subscription

Council recommended that the unit of subscription for the period 2000-2004 should remain at its current value of SwF 100. The recommendation was approved by the General Assembly.

3. Certification of Delegate Credentials

Secretary General Trinder called the roll. There were ~~Members~~ *Ordinary* present with 153 eligible to vote.

38. Decision on Members in Default of Contribution

The UK and Switzerland each made a motion formalizing their proposals under item #29. *noted above* The UK Delegate speaking to their motion commented that all options suggested by Council emphasized communication between the Member and the Council before any final steps were to be taken. He stated that the Council should review each case on its merits and that the Swiss motion would lead to a reduction in size of the Society.

The result of the vote on the motions was:

UK motion	65
Switzerland motion	87
Invalid	1

Approval of
The motion by Switzerland is a directive for action by the incoming Council.

39. Other Business

- 1) The new logo for the Society was presented to General Assembly *and ratified by the* and ratified. The prize of US\$500 was presented to the Delegate for Canada to be passed on to the designer Mr. Mike Kierstead from the College of Geographic



Science, Canada. The dynamic version of the logo, prepared by Prof. Tuan-Chi Chen was displayed to the GA.

- 2) The Delegate for The Netherlands commented that there was considerable overlap of Resolutions and suggested that the Council should resolve these with the Technical Commission Presidents.

President Fritz said this overlap would be minimized as a result of Bylaw changes and that future Resolutions will be submitted earlier than at the Congress.

- 3) The Delegate for Poland commenting on the Congress Director's report said that the Congress clashed with several Remote Sensing Conferences.

President Fritz said that the new Council should cooperate with other Societies to avoid such clashes. Congress Director Beek commented that the Organizing Committee was aware of this clash but it was unavoidable.

- 4) The Delegate for Brazil suggested an invitation should be sent to ICA to attend the next Congress.

5) President Fritz acknowledged the expression of the appreciation of the G-A to the Cong. Dir. Beek, the Neth. Soc. President Molenaar and the organizing committee and to the G-A support staff.

40. Close of General Assembly

In closing the General Assembly, President Fritz said that it had been an honor and privilege for him to chair the General Assembly and thanked the Members for supporting the democratic process and staying within the allotted time for each session for completing its work.

The session adjourned at 4.45pm.