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INTERNATIONAL ASTRONOMICAL UNION
UNION ASTRONOMIQUE INTERNATIONALE

FIFTIETH MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PATRAS, GREECE

26 August 1982

PROCEEDINGS

The 50th Meeting of the Executive Committee of the International Astronomical Union took place in the Hotel Averof, Patras, Greece, on 26 August 1982, following the closing of the 18th General Assembly of the IAU.

Present at the meeting were:

Professor R. Hanbury Brown	President
Dr. M.W. Feast	Vice-President
Professor R. Kraft	Vice-President
Dr. L. Kresak	Vice-President
Professor M. Peimbert	Vice-President
Professor R. Wilson	Vice-President
Professor Ya. S. Yatskiv	Vice-President
Dr. R.M. West	General Secretary
Dr. J.P. Swings	Assistant General Secretary
Professor P.A. Wayman	Advisor, Former General Secretary

in attendance:

Mrs. B. Manning	Secretary
Ms. P. Smiley	Typist

The following report has been prepared in the order of the Agenda items. Documents of the meeting are available in the Union files for further reference.

1. Opening by the President

The President opened the meeting at 15.00 and extended a warm welcome to the new members to the Executive Committee, Profs. Kraft, Peimbert and Yatskiv as Vice-Presidents and Dr. J.P. Swings, as Assistant General Secretary.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda were approved. (Appendix I)

3. Report by the General Secretary

(a) Decisions of the XVIIIth General Assembly

The General Secretary mentioned that the total participation at Patras (up to 24.8.82) was 1760, i.e. similar to the General Assemblies in Montreal and Grenoble.

The General Secretary reported about the major decisions taken by the 18th General Assembly at its second session earlier that morning. Among the resolutions passed (these will be printed in IAU Transactions Vol. XVIII B), he drew attention to the creation of a new commission, 51, "Search for Extraterrestrial Life". It is expected that this commission will be a joint commission with the International Union of Biological Sciences, but since the IUBS has its General Assembly at the same time as IAU, this will be decided later by correspondence between the General Secretaries of IAU and IUBS.

Of further importance was the recognition by the IAU of the International Halley Watch as coordinating agency for observations of this comet at its expected return in 1985/86.

The EC commended the Resolutions Committee for its excellent work.

The EC underlined the decision of EC 49 not to accept withdrawal from the Union by individual members, unless it was accompanied by a personal letter. One should rather encourage continued membership of retired persons.

(b) Finances of the Union

It was noted with satisfaction that a majority of the Adhering Countries had voted for an increase in the unit of contribution which will henceforth be Swiss Francs 1,760.-. This will help strengthen the scientific aspects of the IAU and, as a visible measure, will allow to almost double the budget of travel grants for symposia and colloquia. It was confirmed that the maxima

for the period 1983-85 will be Swiss Francs 5,000.- (colloquia) and 10,000.- (symposia).

The General Secretary was requested to settle, as soon as possible, financial matters with respect to the 18th General Assembly with the Local Organizing Committee. In view of the complexity, it could be expected that a final settlement would only be reached in some months' time.

With the adoption of the budget proposed by the Executive Committee, it has now become possible to support the Visiting Lecturers' Scheme. The General Secretary was requested to take up contact with the persons involved in order to propose how an initial effort within this scheme could be implemented. In particular, it would be important to decide, at an early date, about which country this scheme should first be applied to, also in order to secure possible future UNESCO support to this project.

(c) Financial Authority and Transfer of Signature

Financial Authority was transferred to the President and the General Secretary. The EC agreed to the following:

Financial Authority to the General Secretary

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 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 Secretary of the IAU.

6. Travel and subsistence expenses. The General Secretary, the Assistant General Secretary, as well as the 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 ICSU or similar organizations, or scientific meetings, are paid in accord with the standard procedures for members of the Executive Committee.)

7. Expense Account. The General Secretary and the Assistant General Secretary are authorized to receive repayment, from the funds of the budget, of the responsible expenses of hospitality incurred in the conduct of business of the Union, subject to a maximum of 800 US dollars in any one year.

(d) Next General Assembly

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Following the invitation by the Indian Academy of Sciences to hold the XIXth General Assembly in New Delhi, India, in the period November ~~18~~ - ~~21~~, 1985, and the approval by the second session of the General Assembly, the General Secretary was requested to take up contacts with the organizers at an early date. It was emphasized that the procedures for access to the General Assembly by all bona fide scientists must be looked into, so that visa problems can be avoided. The location of the meeting rooms in central New Delhi and distances to hotels, as well as means for commuting between these was discussed. It was emphasized that inexpensive accommodation should be made available to younger astronomers and recipients of IAU travel grants in 1985.

The General Secretary explained that he expected to visit New Delhi in November 1982 for initial discussions with the organizers and that he would report back to the Executive Committee in due time.

(e) Relations with and Representation in Other International Organizations

Representation to other organisations was discussed. As a result of deliberations during the General Assembly and with some additions made by the EC, the following representatives are proposed:

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Commission</u>	<u>Proposed Name</u>
ICSU		R.M. West
COSPAR		R.M. West
EPS Conference Com.		J.P. Swings
ICSU-AB	5	W.D. Heintz
SCOSTEP	10/49	M.R. Kundu
IUWDS	10	E. Tandberg Hansen
QBSA	10	F. Moriyama
FAGS	10/49	E. Tandberg Hansen, H. Enslin
CODATA	5	B. Hauck
CCDM	14	A.H. Cook
IUCS	14	B. Edlen, J.G. Phillips, M.J. Seaton
IPMS	19	B. Kolaczek
CCDS	19/31	W. Markowitz, J. Benavente
BIH	31	S. Iijima, F. Paquet
CCIR Study Group 7	31	H.M. Smith, J. Pilkington
CCIR Study Group 2	40	J. Whiteoak, L.H. Doherty
IUCAF	40	R. Schilizzi, G. Swarup

<u>Organization</u>	<u>Commission</u>	<u>Proposed Name</u>
CCMP	16	P.M. Millmann, M. Ya. Marov
CTS	46	D. McNally

A representative to COSTED would be proposed later.

The General Secretary mentioned that he intended to write to all representatives in order to assess the situation of IAU representation to other organizations. He would report back to the EC about the outcome.

It was decided to recommend affiliation of two organizations to the IAU:

- 1) International Aeronautical Federation (IAF)
- 2) International Union of Amateur Astronomers (IUAA)

The General Secretary should take further steps to implement these affiliations. It was decided that Prof. Papagiannis, President of Commission 51, would be the representative to IAF, but that no representative to IUAA is needed for the time being.

(f) Commission Matters

The Executive Committee noted with satisfaction and endorsed the agreement between Commission 20 and WGPSN about the nomenclature of bodies in the solar system and surface features on this. The corresponding report with an explanation of the naming procedure should be published in Transactions Vol. XVIII B. It was hoped that a minor matter of contention concerned with three satellites (2 at Jupiter and '1 at Saturn) could be settled shortly by discussion among members of Commission 20 and WGPSN.

The Visiting Lecturers' Scheme was discussed in some detail and, as mentioned above, it was hoped that it would be possible to make a specific proposal about the implementation, well in advance of EC 51. The future acceptance of EC of the continuation of this scheme would depend on the initial experience.

The General Secretary was requested to contact Commission 5 and Dr. S. Mitton about the preparation of a revised version of the IAU Style Book.

The EC agrees to the two International Schools for Young Astronomers, proposed by Commission 46. The school in Indonesia, to be held in 1983, had not yet been defined in detail. Clarification was also needed for the proposed school in Mérida, Venezuela, September-October 1983. It was, therefore, decided to ask

the General Secretary to collect the necessary information and to submit the proposal to the EC by mail for an early decision. The EC authorizes the provision of funds, according to the rules for YAS.

The Executive Committee had received a letter from Dr. C. Worley about the organization of Commission 26. In particular, Dr. Worley was worried about the choice of the President and the Vice-President of this Commission. The EC decided that this was an internal matter and that no further action was necessary.

4. Meetings

(a) Symposia and Colloquia

Some EC members, noting with satisfaction the full adherence of China to IAU, enquired whether it would be possible to foresee IAU meetings on the Mainland within the next few years. This would be advantageous for the integration of all Chinese astronomers into IAU affairs. The General Secretary reported that contacts had already been established with the Chinese representatives to the General Assembly in Patras, and that it appeared that there might be some problems concerning entry visas for scientists from certain countries. However, he expected to discuss this during a forthcoming visit to China, probably in April 1983. At the same time, he would discuss other organizational matters with the Chinese authorities concerned.

A total of 13 meetings had been proposed for IAU sponsorship. After a very detailed discussion about each of these, the EC decided to accept the following: (s = symposium; c = colloquium)

<u>Title</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
VLBI and Compact Radio Sources	s 110	Summer 1983	Bologna, Italy
Astronomy with Schmidt Type Telescopes	c 78	30 August-2 Sept 1983	Asiago, Italy
Astrometric Techniques	s 109	9-12 January 1984	Mérida, Venezuela
Very Large Telescopes	c 79	9-12 April 1984	Munich, Germany, FR

It was decided that a proposed meeting "Masses and Dynamics of Visual and Nearby Binaries", to be organized in Indonesia, June 1983, at the time of the solar eclipse visible in that country, could be further discussed by mail. The Assistant General Secretary was requested to obtain further details from the organizers within the next two months and to report back to the members of the Executive Committee in writing.

Two meetings which were proposed for 1985 were looked upon favourably, but according to IAU tradition, no decision about meetings in the years of General Assemblies will be made earlier than 2 years before the General Assembly. The proposals were therefore referred back to the organizers with an indication of support by the EC. These meetings were:

"Quasars" - India, proposed by G. Swarup

"Star Forming Regions" - Japan, proposed by M. Morimoto

(b) Regional Astronomy Meetings

No further proposals were received.

(c) Co-sponsored Meetings

The General Secretary was asked to nominate representatives to the meetings for which co-sponsorship had been agreed on at EC 49.

5. Next Meeting of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee decided to accept the invitation by the European Southern Observatory to hold its 51st meeting at the ESO Headquarters at Garching near Munich, in 1983. The exact date would be decided later, but preference was expressed for either the last week in August or the second week in September.

Prof. Wayman, former IAU General Secretary indicated that an invitation from the Dublin Observatory to host the 52nd Meeting of the Executive Committee might be forthcoming. The EC provisionally expressed an interest in holding the 1984 meeting in Dublin.

6. Other Matters

The EC discussed how it could best be represented at the funeral rites for Professor Bappu. It was decided to ask Prof. Bhattacharyya to represent the Executive Committee, since he would be more familiar with the traditions of his country, and also because it was doubtful whether any other member would be able to travel to India on the very short notice expected (1 or 2 days). Prof. Bhattacharyya later agreed to carry this function.

It was further decided to transmit, in due time, to Mrs. Bappu the texts read at the memorial session on August 23. At the proposal of Prof. Bhattacharyya, the Local Organizing Committee, represented by Prof. Goudas, would be asked by the General Secretary to prepare a photographic album of the Patras General

Assembly, also to be forwarded to Mrs. Bappu.

The former General Secretary mentioned that, conforming with the decision by EC 49, he had written a letter to the President of the Soviet Academy of Sciences concerning the Ozernoy case. The letter expressed the concern of the IAU Executive Committee and informs of the intention to pass the information at its disposal to the appropriate committee of ICSU.

The EC expressed the hope that constructive replies would be received from authorities at an early date and that Prof. Ozernoy would be permitted to emigrate and take up a position in the U.S.

Concerning a letter received from Prof. Dachs of the Bochum Observatory, FRG, regarding the possible closing of that institute, the EC resolved that, unless IAU activities are threatened, no action can be taken by the EC.

A letter had been received from Dr. F.J. Heyden S.J., Philippines, about possible future adherence of the Philippines to IAU. Substantial documentation accompanied the letter. The General Secretary was requested to take this matter up at an early date with Dr. Heyden and the appropriate agencies.

The EC finally discussed the problem in connection with Advisor to the EC which had arisen because of Prof. Bappu's death. It was decided to leave this position open for the time being and that Prof. P. Wayman would be sole advisor to the EC until the next EC meeting. If the Officers of the Union felt that it would be necessary, the question could then be discussed again by the Executive Committee.

7. Closing by the President

The President closed the meeting at 18.00 and thanked all members of the Executive Committee for an efficient and fruitful meeting. He also wished them a happy return to their home countries.