

International Society of Zoological Sciences

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

Held in Room Bc, Okinawa Convention Center, Okinawa, Japan

17:30-19:00 Friday 18 November 2016

Attending: Zhibin ZHANG, Yoshitaka NAGAHAMA, Jurgen HEINZE, Sarita MAREE

Secretariat: Chunxu HAN, Wenhua XIONG, Wei ZHANG and Jacob WICKHAM

Apologies: Abraham Haim, Nils Chr. STENSETH, Rosa POLYMENI, Marvelee WAKE, Jean-Marc JALLON, John BUCKERIDGE, Edwin COOPER, Michael SCHMITT, Yan XIE

Welcome by Zhibin ZHANG, President, ISZS and the meeting called to order.

1. Comments on ISZS and INZ Reports

Chunxu Han, Secretary General, presented an ISZS Progress Report 2008-2016 to the ISZS GA on 15 November 2016, giving a good summary of ISZS work in the last 4 years. Also a printed ISZS Progress Report (2008-2016) was distributed at the GA.

Wenhua Xiong, Executive Editor, INZ, presented a report on INZ at the GA and also gave a good summary of the INZ progresses in the last 4 years.

Agreed and no additional comments

2. Discussion on ISZS and INZ working directions by next GA

None

3. Discussion on the preparation of the 23rd ICZ in Cape Town, South Africa in 2020

Sarita Maree presented an introduction report on the 23rd ICZ in Cape Town, South Africa, 2020 with a promotional video on the conference venue and South Africa at the end of Plenary Lectures on 16 November 2016. She also set up an exhibit booth during the ICZ venues in Japan (Okinawa Institute of Science and Technology and Okinawa Convention Center). A web-site for the 23rd ICZ was launched and over 200 people signed up for the ICZ newsletter.

Sarita Maree also explained that the current topics for the symposia are somewhat broad. However, the intention was that it might be more relevant, and more scientists, including working in urban environments, could be attracted.

In 2018 (2 years in advance), official call for symposia will be announced with an option to do either poster or oral presentation. African scientists and young scientists will be encouraged to attend the ICZ.

The estimated registration fee is 7,000 RAND (calculated by taking the 22nd ICZ registration fee and adding 5% inflation per year). The Congress will have student-friendly prices, and discounted accommodation options, \$50-70 for hotels, \$30-35 for Bed and Breakfast, and <\$30 for University dorms, for example. Sponsorship will also be used to fund student participation, including local costs and accommodation. ISZS Secretariat registration fees will be waived.

An early bird option as that in Okinawa will be arranged. Some plenary speakers, e.g. Rasmus Nielsen, have already invited and the targeted participants will be around 500 people.

Currently, the 1st sponsorship/donation has been made: 100,000 RAND from Oppenheimer, wishing to support at LEAST 20 African young scientists.

Jurgen Heinze said that as the ICZ in China, France, Israel and Japan, the previous ICZ hosts, there were too many people came from the host country to attend the congress. This should try to be improved in South Africa.

Sarita Maree said that in South Africa, it is hoped that out of the targeted 500 participants, 150 will be students, and 2/3 will be from Africa.

Sarita Maree also confirmed that ISZS Business meetings, including General Assembly (GA), INZ Editorial Board Meeting, EC Meeting will be organized during the 23rd ICZ in South Africa.

As for the theme: Anthropocene, Jurgen Heinze said that generally it was good to not be too specific/narrow. If the focus is restricted too much, it might lose delegates. The current topic is good as it will be relevant in 4 years.

It would be good to have some Anthropology in the theme (e.g. Paleoanthropology), as it might attract more potential plenary speakers, such as Leakeys, Johanneden, Sir David Attenborough. Furthermore, if Oppenheimers invites them, they might come.

If high profile plenaries are organized, the general public can be invited to attend these talks. Also, it is good to have excellent scientists that want to speak to the people.

Chunxu Han said that ISZS will apply for funds to support a BCGC symposium in South Africa like that in Okinawa. In addition, around 30 people can be organized to come and attend the ICZ in South Africa in 2020. Also, Japan Zoological Society set an excellent example of hosting a joint meeting for 23rd ICZ to follow in South Africa. This might attract more people to come and attend.

Sarita Maree said that the 23rd ICZ in South Africa would follow the example and consider hosting a joint meeting with the Zoological Society of Southern Africa.

Jacob Wickham raised a question on how to keep costs down for students to attend the congress. Sarita Maree said that students can have a "backpacker" option. There will be more than 1 university dormitory available (40 min away). City buses are on the route to the hotels and convention center and these are very cheap.

Jurgen Heinze raised a concern for safety. Sarita Maree replied that Cape Town is safe. However, caution must be exercised like in many other places in the world. We can provide a map with zones to which it was not suggested to go during the ICZ.

Agreed

4. Appointment of a nomination committee

It is clarified at the meeting that the nomination committee members can be EC members NOT seeking re-election. After Discussion, John Buckeridge, Abraham Haim, and Yan Xie were suggested to be invited to form the nominate committee for the ISZS election within 3 months after the GA in Okinawa .

It was agreed that nominations would come from our members and candidates have to come to the nomination committee with a nomination sheet.

As only the paid members have the right to vote in elections, Jurgen Heinze expressed that he would work on German Zoology Society to pay, and Yoshitaka Nagahama and Sarita Maree also expressed that they would do the same to the Japan Zoological Society and the Zoological Society Southern Africa, respectively.

Agreed

The meeting adjourned at 19:00.