

International Society of Zoological Sciences

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting

**Held in the Seminar Room of the Department of Political Science,
Step Building, University of Haifa in Haifa, Israel**

13:00-14:00 on 4 September 2012

Attending: Jean-Marc Jallon (Chair), Zhibin Zhang, Abraham Haim, Jürgen Heinze, Rosa Polymeni, Chunxu Han, Wenhua Xiong, Wei Zhang, Terry Boyd-Zhang

Issues for discussion:

1. Changes to the ISZS Statutes: The International Society of Zoological Sciences (ISZS) statutes need to have changes made to them and John Buckeridge has been active in seeing to this. Unfortunately, he was not able to attend this meeting, so further discussion should be continued via email.

Action: Terry Boyd-Zhang will email changes to the statutes to Executive Committee (EC) members.

Action: The EC committee members will confirm the changes and the changes will be put to the GA for a vote.

Agreed.

2. Emeritus EC Members: It was suggested that past members of the EC who have made a significant contribution to ISZS would form an Emeritus advisory committee to the EC.

Action: To be considered at a later time, possibly at the (General Assembly) GA, if time permits.

Action: Have active contact over email in order to find a replacement for the position of President.

Agreed.

3. Next ISZS Congress: Japan is the candidate for 2016 and South Africa is the candidate for 2020. Brazil was suggested for a future Congress. There has been no response from India.

Action: Obtain a solid proposal from Brazil and request them to attend Congresses in Japan and South Africa, as well as other subsequent meetings that may occur.

Action: Obtain solid proposals from other candidates as well, in order to ensure that the GA has a proper vote on the location of the Congress.

Agreed.

4. Increasing the Number of EC members: To increase the number of EC members from 7 to 9 or 11 members. Candidates should be representative, from places such as Japan, Africa, South America, Canada and Russia.

Action: Ask Dr. Marvalee Wake from the USA to join the EC.

Action: Ask Dr. Nagahama Yoshitaka from Japan to join the EC.

Action: Ask Dr. Sarita Maree from South Africa to join the EC.

Action: After reorganizing, do elections for new EC positions via email, according to procedures listed in the new statutes.

Action: Terry Boyd-Zhang will send the revisions of the statutes to the GA for approval.

Agreed.

5. Finances of ISZS: Currently, only the Chinese government is supporting ISZS and it is necessary to find other sources of income. For example, participants of a conference could pay 1€ per person to become a member (as in 2008). Individuals wanting to join the Society could pay 10€. Or national societies could pay annual amounts depending on the size of their membership.

Dr. Zhibin Zhang suggested 2 categories, one paid and one unpaid, due to concerns over whether it was too early in ISZS history to charge a fee or not. An individual membership fee of 10€ for 4 years and an institutional membership fee of 100€ for 4 years might be reasonable.

Dr. Abraham Haim suggested organizing satellite meetings, spinning off from the topics of the Congress, which could be held between General Congresses. The smaller meetings could focus on more specialized topics, and larger meetings (the general Congress) could occur more frequently, i.e. every 2 years instead of 4.

Dr. Jürgen Heinze felt regular specialist meetings may not agree to become a satellite meeting of the Congress. He noted that many participants might only attend their own meeting, instead of attending both.

Dr. Jean-Marc Jallon preferred having an “umbrella-type” meeting every 4 years which gives participants a taste for topics outside of their specialization. He noted the need to integrate between countries, and research directions, to increase levels of collaboration and, by extension, funding to ISZS.

Action: Investigate further sources of income.

Agreed.

6. Recruitment for ISZS: Noted was the potential for membership expansion and, with it, the problem of language. For example, one meeting in North Africa* takes place but uses French, instead of English. *Integrative Zoology*, training courses, etc. can be used to increase the influence of ISZS. The level of development of a region, as well as the value placed on science, should be considered while ISZS develops its world policies. Thus, adoption of English language as the sole means of communication may not be universal.

Action: Recruit more African and South American members into ISZS. Encourage them to attend further Congresses.

Agreed.

The meeting adjourned at 14:00.