

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR INFORMATION PROCESSING

MINUTES of the COUNCIL meeting

Mexico City, 30th and 31st October, 1967

PARTICIPANTS:

Members:	A.P. Speiser	President
	L. Lukaszewicz	Vice-President
	J. Carteron	Secretary-Treasurer
	I.L. Auerbach	Trustee
	N.I. Bech	Trustee
	S.F. Beltran	Trustee
	D. Chevion	Trustee
	A. A. Dorodnicyn	Trustee
By invitation:	E. L. Harder	Chairman, Finance Committee
	B.B. Swann	Congress 68 (Congress Committee Chairman)
	F. Genuys	Congress 68 (Congress Committee Chairman)
	D. Thompson	Congress 68 (U.S. Co-ordinating Committee Chairman)
	S. Duyverman	ad hoc chairman, IAG.
	D. Hays	AFIPS
In Attendance:	J.G. Mackarness	Administrative Secretary
Apologies for inability to attend were received from:	M. Linsman	Assistant Secretary
	J.G. Santesmases	Trustee

MONDAY 30th OCTOBER

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The president, in opening the meeting, welcomed all members and others present, and thanked Professor Beltran for the preparations made by his society for the meetings.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The president, in asking for approval of the agenda, reminded members that the main function of the council at its fall meeting is to concentrate on those items likely to be of particular interest or difficulty in the general assembly.

It was agreed that the agenda be approved, subject to the addition of:

- (a) to consider future IFIP policy
- (b) to consider a proposal to establish a special interest group to foster integrated planning techniques
as additional items and
- (c) the proposed establishment of TC.4 in item 4 (minute)
and
- (d) proposed joint conferences on mathematical programming, and experimental data processing techniques, under item 6 (minute.....)

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting, C – MADRID - 67.1, were taken as read and approved, subject to the following alteration to Page 3, line 5 – “and 35 speakers to present half hour papers in technical sessions and”, instead of “and 35 technical session chairmen, and “

4. IFIP CONGRESS 68 – PROGRAMME

F. Genuys, programme committee chairman, reported that progress was satisfactory, except for a major problem over the publication of abstract booklets as decided by the general assembly in Jerusalem (ST – JERUSALEM 66 – No: 1, minute 4.2.6)

The booklets are required in four languages, and 500 word abstracts have been called for: the problem is one of translation and printing; 4,000 copies of each booklet containing up to 250 abstracts, in under two months.

After considerable discussion, an ad hoc sub-committee consisting of I.L. Auerbach, B.B. Swann and F. Genuys proposed, and it was agreed that

- 4.1 the authors of all papers be instructed to head their papers with 50 – 100 word abstracts;
- 4.2 the abstracts be sent to all general assembly members requiring them for translation, the translation and reproduction being carried out for their own national participants to a budget and in a format specified by the congress committee and proceedings committee chairmen respectively.

F. Genuys also explained the problems of reporting, editing and publishing the summaries of panel sessions; and various suggestions were discussed.

- 4.3 It was eventually proposed by N.I. Bech, and agreed that panel chairmen shall be asked to submit their written review of their sessions, and they be provided with tape recordings as aides-memoire.

The council noted that The Admiral of the Fleet the Earl Mountbatten of Burma had agreed to give the opening address and Sir Paul Chambers, chairman of Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd., would give the closing address.

- 4.4 It was further agreed that a paper by the president reviewing the aims, achievements and profile of IFIP should be included, if possible, in volume I of the Proceedings.
5. IFIP CONTRESS 68
- B.B. Swann presented the report and revised budget of the congress committee.
- 5.1 After clarification of certain details of the budget, and suggested provision for procedures not specifically mentioned, it was proposed by I.L. Auerbach, and agreed that the revised budget be accepted and the congress committees be commended for their work.

The council adjourned at 6.15 p.m.

TUESDAY 31ST OCTOBER

6. I.A.G.

The council reviewed the previous discussions with representatives of IAG and took note of the decisions made in Madrid.

They next considered the report presented by S. Duyverman, and it became clear that some actions already taken by the group had gone beyond the limits agreed in Madrid: equally it was clear that the reason could be found in the enthusiastic initiative of the group, coupled with insufficient interchange of progress reports and comments, between the group and IFIP.

The president emphasised that he must accept full responsibility for the situation, but the remainder of the council unanimously insisted that they accepted equal responsibility.

Following preliminary consideration of the financial aspects of the report, the council next considered suggestions that articles 5, 8a, 13 and 14 should be amended to ensure clarity of interpretation and more integrated financial procedures within the IFIP structure.

- 6.1 It was agreed that I.L. Auerbach and J. Carteron should examine the articles in the light of the comments made, and report back.

At this stage S. Duyverman, accompanied by R.C. Beech (AFIPS), R.A. Buckingham and B. Rowe, joined the meeting; and invited the council to recommend that the general assembly should approve the activities proposed for 1968 in this report.

The meeting then discussed the financial sections of the report in detail, and received a number of explanations and supplementary items of information in support of the proposals.

Whilst applauding the initiative of the group, the council expressed concern that there may be difficulties in financing mid-year activities due to the time lag between receiving applications for membership, and receiving the dues after the applications have been approved.

Some reservations were also expressed that the number of U.S. partners to be recruited in 1968 would reach 200: the promotional plans to reach this figure were explained by R.C. Beech.

With these thoughts and explanations in mind, it was agreed to recommend that

- 6.2 the general assembly should approve the IAG programme for 1968 subject to the budget being revised on the basis of
- 6.2.1 the estimated growth of new partners over the next two years, and
- 6.2.1 Six-monthly accounting;
- 6.3 a loan of \$ 7,500 be made for 1968, this loan to be returnable if net income permits.

7. JOINT PUBLICATION OF ABSTRACTS FROM MULTI NATIONAL SOURCES

Dr. D. Hays, AFIPS, outlined his proposal that some steps should be taken to collate, translate and disseminate technical information amongst member countries, he quoted such things as national standards, abstracts and abstract bulletins as being suitable material.

He therefore proposed that IFIP might collect and organise the exchange of secondary information, possibly on computer tapes. The council gave careful consideration to the proposal, and it was agreed that

a committee be formed of Dr. Hays (chairman), A. A. Dorodnicyn and S. Duyverman, to examine the possibilities, in consultation with Professor S. Gill, and report to the next council meeting.

8. PROPOSED SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP

The council considered a proposal from Dr. B. de V. Walden (London) that a new group be formed to promote the development of co-ordinated techniques for computer applications in the planning field.

After considering the paper submitted by Dr. Walden, it was agreed that S. Duyverman should consult Dr. Walden as to the relevance of the proposal to the work of IAG, and report to the next council meeting.

9. IPA SYMPOSIUM

D. Chevion reported on the symposium held by the Israeli Society in Jerusalem on Automation of Population Register Systems in September; and asked whether the council were prepared to contribute towards the cost of publishing the proceedings.

After some discussion it was agreed that

9.1 a grant of \$500 be made towards the publication costs of the proceedings of the IPA symposium.

D. Chevion then stated that the success of the symposium had given rise to the proposal to establish a study group, to investigate the desirability of having a follow-up symposium in 1970; and be asked for a grant of \$1,000 for this purpose.

9.2 the council, whilst appreciative of the success of the 1967 symposium, could not agree to this further request, but

9.3 agreed to grant a maximum of \$250 in 1968 and again in 1969, subject to the president's approval.

10. FUTURE CONFERENCES
COLLOQUIUM ON OPTIMAL PROGRAMMING

A.A. Dorodnicyn reported on plans to hold a colloquium on the problems of optimal programming in June 1968, at Novosibirsk, and requested IFIP sponsorship; he explained that the colloquium would be self-supporting, and he was not therefore asking for funds. It was proposed to have a further colloquium on this subject in 1970.

10.1 The council agreed that this was an important subject, and that the general assembly be recommended to sponsor the colloquium, subject to the usual conditions of sponsorship being fulfilled.

AUTOMATIC PROCESSING OF EXPERIMENTAL DATA

A.A. Dorodnicyn drew the council's attention to the growing importance of this subject, and suggested the possibility of a joint conference with IFAC.

- 10.2 The council agreed that Prof. Dorodnicyn should consult with Prof. J.R. Pasta (CERN) and IFAC.

STATE OF THE ART IN APPLICATION OF CONTROL COMPUTERS

E. Harder reported on the progress of arrangements for this joint IFAC / IFIP conference, to be held in June 1968 in Toronto.

He stated that there would be no financial commitment for IFIP, the sponsorship being confined to the use of the IFIP name.

There would be no published proceedings, but pre-prints would be issued to all participants.

He also reported that similar plans were under consideration for a proposed joint IFAC/IFIP conference on Programming Languages for Numerical Controlled Machine Tools in 1969.

- 10.3 The report was accepted.

11. PROPOSED TC-4

Prof. F. Gremy presented his proposal to establish a technical committee for medical data processing, with the general scope of promoting the extension of the techniques of EDP in the various fields of medical research and practice.

Prof. Gremy explained that he had good support from a number of countries.

The council agreed to recommend:

- 11.1 that TC-4 (Medical data processing) be established
- 11.2 that Prof. Gremy should submit the names of prospective committee members to the president for appointment, and
- 11.3 the committee's first task should be to define precisely the scope of its activities.

12. TC-3

R.A. Buckingham presented his circulated report on the committee's work and on the London seminar: he also reported orally that the \$8,000 advanced for the seminar had been repaid.

In discussions on the budget, the question of a travel fund was again raised, on the basis that some members of TC-3 working in educational establishments found great difficulty in getting funds to travel to meetings.

It was finally agreed to recommend that:

- 12.1 loans not exceeding \$9,500 be made for preparatory work on a level-2 seminar on systems analysis and design and similar work for regional level-1 seminars on edp, and
- 12.2 the sum of \$2,200 be approved for clerical and other work of TC-3 and W.G.3.1

13. COUNCIL MEETING, SPRING A1968

In view of the time-table of the IFIP Congress 68 programme committee, which provides for the final paper-selection to take place in March, it was agreed that the spring meeting of the Council in Tiflis be postponed, the new dates being:

31st March 1968

1st/2nd April 1968

Excursion

Council meeting

14. CLOSE OF MEETING

The president closed the meeting at 6.30 p.m., and thanked the participants for their co-operation: the council in turn expressed their appreciation of the president's guidance and conduct of the meeting.