

INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR INFORMATION PROCESSING

MINUTES of the COUNCIL meeting

Tbilisi, U.S.S.R, 1st and 2nd April 1968

PARTICIPANTS:

Members:	A.P. Speiser	President
	L. Lukaszewicz	Vice-President
	A. A. Dorodnicyn	President-elect and Trustee
	J. Carteron	Secretary-Treasurer
	N.I. Bech	Trustee
	D. Chevion	Trustee
	A. van Wijngaarden	Trustee
	H. Zemanek	Trustee
By invitation:	E. L. Harder	Chairman, Finance Committee
	F. Genuys	Congress 68 (Congress 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:	I.L. Auerbach	Trustee
	M. Linsman	Assistant Secretary
	Y. Degawa	

MONDAY 1st APRIL

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The president opened the meeting by welcoming all members and others present; in particular we greeted the two new trustees attending for the first time, namely A. van Wijngaarden and H. Zemanek.

The president expressed the thanks of the council to Professor A.A. Dorodnicyn and the members of the Georgian Academy of Sciences for the preparations made for the meeting.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The meeting approved the agenda, and agreed to the introduction of certain items in addition to those already included on the agenda.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting C - Mexico City – 67.2 were taken as read and approved.

4. CONGRESS 68

4.1 The meeting received a report (C – Tbilisi 68 CC-1) from B.B. Swann, chairman of the congress committee, and agreed that

4.1.1 all general assembly members should be asked by Mr. Swann whether the broadsheet has been circulated within their societies, and if not, how many copies they need.

4.1.2 the programme information should be very widely circulated;

4.1.3 all national societies should be asked to publish the full programme, and

4.1.4 copies of the full programme should be sent to all interested journals, world-wide;

4.1.5 Mr. Swann be thanked for his report, which has the council's approval.

4.2 The meeting received details of the programme from F. Genuys, chairman of the programme committee and noted that S.S. Lavrov had had to withdraw from the list of invited speakers.

It was agreed that:

4.2.1 Professor A. van Wijngaarden be asked to replace Prof. Lavrov, and to give a paper on ALGOL 68;

4.2.2 the time-table of the opening session on 5th August be as follows: -

10.00 a.m. The President to give formal introductory remarks.

10.15 a.m. Lord Mountbatten.

10.45 a.m. Break, mainly for platform party and other VIPs to withdraw.

11.00 a.m. B.B. Swann to speak briefly about congress arrangements generally. (NOTE Mr. Swann prefers not to speak, but will do so if necessary at the end of the congress.)

11.10 a.m. F. Genuys to give outline of programme.

11.20 a.m. Prof. G.E. Forsythe.

12.00 noon

4.2.3 the question of stand-by chairmen for each session should be left to the programme committee.

4.2.4 F. Genuys and his committee be thanked for his report, which has the council's approval.

5. TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

5.1 TC-1

The council received a report (C – Tbilisi 68 – TC-1) from A. van Wijngaarden, and agreed that

5.1.1 wider representation is required from member countries;

5.1.2 the administrative secretary should buy a copy of the Hungarian translation of the vocabulary, for the archives, and

5.1.3 the report be approved, with thanks to the chairman and his committee.

5.2 TC-2

The chairman, H. Zemanek, reported orally that the W.G.2.1 draft of ALGOL 68 had been published and comments were being received; it was planned to hold two further meetings before submitting it to TC-2 for approval in July at Edinburgh. The chairman also reported that W.G.2.2 would be meeting early in July; and that in general his committee was having some difficulty over travel costs.

It was agreed that

5.2.1 the report be approved with thanks to the chairman and members of his committee and working groups.

5.2.2 E.L. Harder be asked to investigate the question of travel expenses and report to the next general assembly.

5-3 TC-3

The council received a report (C-Tbilisi-68 TC.3-1) from R.A. Buckingham, and noted that J. Carteron, having applied for government support for a seminar in French; seeks authority to proceed in organising it if the support is given.

It was agreed that

5.3.1 J. Carteron be authorised to proceed with the organisation of a French-language seminar, in conjunction with TC-3, if government support is given, and

5.3.2 the report be approved, with thanks to the chairman and his committee.

5.4 TC-4

The council received a report (C-Tbilisi-68 TC.4-1) from F. Gremy, chairman, and agreed that

5.4.1 Professor Gremy be authorised to accept the invitation from Dr. J. F. Davis, Director of the International Institute of Medical Electronics and Biological Engineering to join a working group in the same field as TC-4, and

5.4.2 the report be approved, with thanks to the chairman.

6. ACCOUNTS FOR 1967 (C-Tbilisi-68 FC-1)

The council received the audited balance sheet and accounts for 1967 presented by E.L. Harder, chairman of the finance committee.

It was agreed to recommend to the general assembly that

the audited balance sheet and accounts for 1967 be approved.

Dr. Harder was thanked for his work, and it was noted that a uniform system of accounting for the secretariat and IAG is being prepared.

7. IAG

The council received a report (C-Tbilisi-68 IAG 1/1) and supporting documents (IAG communications, No. 1 No. 2) from S. Duyverman. As there had not been enough time to study the documents in detail, it was agreed that

7.1 discussion be deferred overnight, and in the meantime D. Chevion, E. Harder, J. Carteron and S. Duyverman should review the budget proposals and report when the discussion is resumed.

The above-named ad hoc committee reported that, after a full study and discussion, it be recommended to the general assembly that

7.1.1 the revised budget based on 150 partners be approved, subject to the receipt of \$8,300 from the Netherlands government as promised, and

7.1.2 the publication of a quarterly journal be approved on the basis of a sum not exceeding \$5,000 being spent on the first two issues.

The council approved these recommendations, and agreed that

7.2 D. Chevion and the administrative secretary should circulate the recommendations to the general assembly, asking for early approval.

7.3 It was a clearly recognised fact that losses on any IFIP activity are the legal liability of IFIP, whilst surpluses are legally the property of IFIP.

The council next considered the document C-Tbilisi-68 (SIG) and after discussion on the scope, in practice, of the proposal made by B. de G. Walden, and means of its implementation.

7.4 It was agreed that a committee of S. Duyverman (chairman), J. Carteron und E.L. Harder be appointed to examine the proposal in detail, and recommended whether it warrants the formation of a new technical committee.

The council next considered and approved the IAG proposal (C-Tbilisi- 68/4) to publish the London seminar papers; and noted the report relating to the proposed international pool of abstracts. The council asked that IAG audited accounts should be presented at each spring meeting of the council, noted the action already taken on standardising the accounting procedures; and expressed their thanks to S. Duyverman and his board for their vigorous work.

9. JOINT MEETINGS

The council received reports from A. A. Dorodnicyn, E. Harder, and on behalf of S. Gill. Prof. Dorodnicyn reported that:

- (a) Novosibirsk Symposium arrangements were up to schedule, and the Siberian Academy of Sciences would publish the proceedings;
- (b) Prof. Pasta could not participate in the proposed conference on automatic programming of experimental data, but might be able to in 1970.

E.L. Harder reported on the plans for Prolamat 69, to be held in Italy; he awaited a budget from Prof. Carraciolo. It was proposed to have pre-prints of the papers.

It was reported for Prof. S. Gill that Mr. Vichnevetsky had agreed to represent IFIP in the 1970 AICA/IFIP conference planning.

The reports were approved.

10. EXTERNAL LIAISON

The council noted that, for the time being N.I. Bech had nothing to report on the proposal to establish a liaison committee for international government-sponsored bodies for aid to the developing countries.

11. JOINT MEMBERSHIP

The council considered, at the request of C. Gotlieb, chairman of the admissions committee, whether some adjustment of the statutes was either necessary or desirable to help countries with small national societies to joint IFIP.

The suggestions discussed included group membership and substantially lower dues. A number of difficulties were soon evident in the group membership proposal, and it was agreed that

11.1 it should not be pursued.

The council were evenly divided on the question of lower dues, and it was eventually agreed, that

11.1.1 membership dues should not be regarded as a deterrent in individual cases, and the attendance of observers should be encouraged, and

11.1.2 existing members might well consider the possibility of sponsoring potential members through the Technical Committees.

12. PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

The council received a report (C-Tbilisi-68 PUC-1) from the chairman, A. van Wijngaarden, noting the change in ICC policy, and the differences in approach between IFAC and IFIP.

After discussion of the problems which had arisen with ICC, it was agreed that

- 12.1 royalties should be reserved for ICC from sales of the German and Hungarian translations of the vocabulary.
- 12.1 work on other translations should continue, and
- 12.3 the president should write to the chairman of ICC (with a copy to the director), telling him what IFIP proposes to do, and trying to reach a settlement with ICC. The problems arising from the publication of IFAC/IFIP conference proceedings also brought out a number of alternative suggestions, and it was agreed that
- 12.4 the president, Prof. van Wijngaarden, J. Carteron and E. Harder should examine the matter in detail and report later in the meeting.

This group's report, presented on Tuesday 2nd April recommended that:

- (a) no further action be taken on royalties from the sale of proceedings published unilaterally by IFAC after previous joint conferences;
- (b) the president should write to the president of IFAC (the letter being prepared by E. Harder) proposing that for Prolamat 69 IFIP should handle the finance and receive any surplus, whilst IFAC would participate in the choice of programme and the local arrangements, the conference being designated as and IFIP/IFAC event.

The council approved these recommendations.

13. INTERNATIONAL ABSTRACTS SERVICE

Dr. Hays introduced his report (C-Tbilisi-68.DC.1) on the proposed establishment of an international pool of abstracts from multinational sources. It was noted that UNESCO and ICSO are conducting a feasibility study on the establishment of a similar project, but covering all sciences; and that IFIP's project might possible form the part of such a service relating punch to edp.

Dr. Hays, after reporting on the comments of Prof. Dorodnicyn, Prof. Gill, and Mr. Duyverman, and on the work being done by AFIPS, recommended that:

- 13.1 an ad hoc committee consisting of himself, A.I. Chernyi, R. Needham, N Gardin and S. Duyverman should be authorised to investigate the project in more detail and report in writing to the next general assembly ahead of its meeting.
- 13.2 this committee should invite national correspondents to provide lists of appropriate source publications.
- 13.3 the committee should meet in Amsterdam on or near 27th – 29th May.

The council having also noted that VINITI, the appropriate USSR body, agrees in principle to provide a suitably qualified person to work on the project, and AFIPS will contribute \$10,000 for overheads other than salaries.

The council approved the recommendations.

11. FUTURE POLICY

The council received a general statement from D. Chevion, chairman of the future policy committee, outlining his preliminary thoughts which had not yet been discussed at a meeting of the committee.

It was agreed that members should consider these suggestions overnight and discuss them in further detail later in the meeting.

In the subsequent discussion, references were made to the ideas circulated by I.L. Auerbach on 16th November 1967, which included:

- (a) revising the statutes and bylaws,
- (b) reviewing the finances and their structure,
- (c) considering the implications of having two secretariats,
- (d) studying and reporting on the present administration and filing procedures,
- (e) reviewing the rules of operation of the standing committees,
- (f) considering future policy;

and the council noted that a number of these ideas coincided with those of Mr. Chevion.

It was agreed that

14.1 the review in (c) above should be put in hand, bearing in mind that an internal revision of the systems is already being conducted by the administrative secretary,

14.2 long-term plans for the secretariat should be prepared by a committee consisting of J. Carteron, I.L. Auerbach, and E. Harder.

14.3 the statutes and bylaws committee should conduct (e) above.

The view was expressed by the secretary-treasurer and the chairman of the finance committee that the services given by the secretariat at present were provided efficiently and at the lowest possible cost; and it was also agreed that:

14.4 merging the two secretariats of IFIP is not favoured.

15. INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC UNIONS

The council received an oral report from J. Carteron, stating inter alia that:

- (a) ICSU has changed its policy and now accepts the desirability of interdisciplinary membership,
- (b) its finances totalling \$340,000 per annum are derived from government and non-government sources,
- (c) it will support travel costs and projects,
- (d) it has two grades of membership, and to achieve full status requires a two-thirds majority - namely about 50 votes – of the general assembly.

It was agreed that

a detailed case be prepared for full membership.

16. TRUSTEES

The president reported that due to a failure in communication Mr. Yamauti had been elected a trustee, when he was not eligible for office because he had been replaced as Japan's representative. There would therefore be two vacancies for a three-year term, and one for a two-year term, to be filled at the next general assembly

17. FORTHCOMING GENERAL ASSEMBLY BUSINESS

It was agreed that

- 17.1 to help the secretary-treasurer and the finance committee, TC chairmen should put in their budget requirements for 1969 as far in advance of the 1968 general assembly as possible, and
17.2 the budget should be one of the last items on the general assembly agenda.

18. FORTHCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was agreed that

- 18.1 the dates for the 1969 spring meeting should be fixed at the August 1968 meeting,
18.2 the fall meetings in 1969 should be:
 27-28 October (Council) and
 29-31 October (General Assembly)
in Prague.
18.3 invitations from Austria, Poland and USA should be noted with thanks and acted upon at the appropriate time.

19. UNESCO MEETING – DEHLI

The Council noted that a UNESCO conference, on the application of Science & Technology to the development of Asia was scheduled for 9 – 20 August 68 in Delhi.

N.I. Bech's offer to attend for part of the conference, was accepted with thanks, and efforts would be made to get an Australian to act also, if necessary.

20. INFORMATION BULLETIN

The president proposed a study of the possibility of producing an information bulletin, on the lines of the one produced by IFAC, for circulation to members and the press.

It was agreed that

the public information committee should prepare a proposal for the next meeting.

21. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

N.I. Bech sought guidance on his financial responsibility as a member of the seminar co-ordinating board.

It was agreed that

the responsibility of a member of this board is the same as that of a TC chairman – namely any losses incurred are the liability of IFIP, who will first satisfy themselves that the member concerned acted in good faith.

CLOSE OF THE MEETING

The president closed the meeting at 7.25 p.m. on Tuesday 2nd April 1968; at his invitation members accorded a unanimous vote of thanks to Prof. A. A. Dorodnicyn, his assistants, and the representatives of the Georgian Academy of Sciences for all their help and hospitality which had combined to make the meeting and visit so successful and memorable.