

# Minutes of the International Society of Zoological Sciences Committee Meeting

Held at the XIX Annual Congress, Beijing, Room 4, BICC,

1900 hours, August 25<sup>th</sup> 2004.

## Present:

International Society of Zoological Sciences Committee members Dr. J. Buckeridge, (NZ), Dr. E. Cooper (USA), Dr. J-M Jallon (France), Dr. R. Polymeni (Greece), Dr. M. Schmitt (Germany), Dr. D. Song (China), Dr. Z. Zhang (China) and Dr. Y. Xie (China, Secretary). In attendance for the first 30 minutes: Dr. D. Por (Israel) and Dr. N. Stenseth (Norway).

## The meeting was preceded by an open forum.

- Dr. Stenseth gave an outline of a proposal for the ISZS to help co-ordinate a data-base of zoological knowledge. It was agreed that this could be a valuable contribution to biological science. The ISZS Committee is to invite Dr. Stenseth to develop an action plan to take this to the next step. This action plan should take the form of a detailed proposal that includes: background, methods of approach, expected results and financial considerations. A letter advising this action will be sent to Dr. Stenseth.

**Action: J. Buckeridge**

- Dr. Por lamented the lack of systematic taxonomists in key fields. This was in part due to retirement of Senior Academics, with little incentive for new zoologists to undertake systematics. He asked that the ISZS be proactive in trying to reverse this trend. There was recognition of this by the Committee, and concern was voiced that the quality of zoological science could decline as a result. Dr. Por will provide ongoing suggestions to the Society.

**Action: Committee**

## Formal Agenda Items (guests retired at this point):

### 1. Minutes of the XIX General Meeting

**Received.**

### 2. Election of Officers (E. Cooper)

President: J. Buckeridge

Vice-President (Society): Z. Zhang

Vice-President (Congress): J-M Jallon

**Agreed with acclamation**

The retirement of Dr. Walter Bock was noted. His input will be acknowledged by a letter from the incoming committee.

**Action: J. Buckeridge**

**3. Consideration of Statute (M. Schmitt)**

It was noted that the Statutes are provisional until the next General Meeting. The evolution of these will take place over the next 12 months.

**Action: M. Schmitt**

**4. Setting of Dues**

These were set at 5€ per annum for individual membership. To minimize transaction costs, this is to be paid, in full, for the period between congresses. That is, a single payment of 20€ for the period 2004-2008. If corporate membership is sought, the annual fee is on the basis of numbers of members of the society. This is calculated at 1€ per member, and is paid annually.

Payment of dues will be as cash (in Beijing), bank draft, or VISA/Mastercard.

A separate bank account for the society will be established in Beijing. Dr. Buckeridge advised that the Society should anticipate an audit before congresses. Legal advice will be essential.

**Action: Z. Zhang**

**5. Legal Status of ISZS**

The Society needs to be registered in a country. The country in which the Secretariat is established is considered appropriate. Dr. Zhang indicated that this could be arranged through the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the China Association for Science and Technology.

**Agreed**

**Action: Z. Zhibin**

**6. Election of Emeriti (J. Buckeridge)**

Discussion followed about the very significant contribution that Dr. Dov Por has made to both the Society (i.e. within the former International Congress of Zoology) and to the broad field of zoology. It was considered appropriate to recognize this contribution in a tangible manner. The title of **Emeritus Chair** was agreed by all, with a presentation to be made at the Farewell Banquet of the XIX IZC.

**Action: J Buckeridge**

**7. Update on Paris 2008 (J-M Jallon)**

The dates for the XX ISZS Congress are tentatively 26-29 August 2008 (Tuesday-Friday). This will not clash with the Olympics. Concern about a potential clash with the Entomological Congress was voiced and Dr. Schmitt will investigate and report back.

**Action: M Schmitt**

## **8. International Commission for Zoological Nomenclature**

It was agreed to ask the IUBS (through Professor Hoshi, President off IUBS) to approach the ICZN to seek to re-establish the alliance between our Society (ISZS) and the Guardians of the Code.

**Action: J Buckeridge**

## **9. Standardization of Hosting Application (E. Cooper)**

There is a need to standardize the application form for potential hosting institutions to present for consideration to host succeeding ISZS Congresses.

**Action: E. Cooper**

## **10. Mission Statement**

This is to be developed in conjunction with any review of the current statute.

**Action: J. Buckeridge, M. Schmitt**

## **11. Workshops (J-M Jallon)**

A proposal to provide a vehicle through which the Society could offer specialist workshops in zoological sciences was discussed. There was agreement that this should be investigated further.

**Action: J-M. Jallon**

## **12. Proceedings of the XIX Congress**

These will be published in a special volume. There will be a cut-off date for submission of manuscripts (December 1<sup>st</sup> 2004). Anticipated publication date is October-November 2005.

**Action: R. Polymeni, D. Song**

## **13. Specialist “trends in zoology” publications**

There was discussion about the potential to publish specialist volumes in zoological sciences. Potential publishers include Elsevier. All members are asked to consider this. Formal linkage could perhaps, be established with *Zootaxa* for systematic works.

**Action: M. Schmitt**

## **14. ISZS Logo**

The design of a logo for the new society was debated. It was considered appropriate that this be developed over the next 12 months. A student competition? Members were asked to contemplate this issue.

**Action: Committee Members**

**The meeting closed at 2100 hours.**