Part II: 125 Years of ICZ

History:
The International Congress of Zoology (ICZ) is amongst the oldest of all the international congresses in the world, and it was once regarded as the only congress that held highest authority in zoology, especially in regards to zoological nomenclature.

In 1889, an international exhibition was organized in Paris to celebrate the hundredth anniversary of French Revolution. The French Society of Zoology convinced the government to organize a congress of zoology to give authority to an international commission of zoological nomenclature in the world.

About 4000 documents were sent to zoologists, anatomists, paleontologists, physiologists and embryologists around the world. Over 230 members from 31 nations in Europe, America and Australia registered, though only 60 attended finally. The congress opened at the Trocadero Palace in Paris on 5 Aug 1889 and closed at Superior School of Pharmacy on 10 Aug 1889.

After the 1st ICZ in Paris, the congresses have met continuously, first at 3-year, later 5-year and now 4-year intervals, unless prevented by war or international crisis. Currently, it has been held 21 times in 18 cities (3 times in Paris, 2 times in Monaco) and 16 countries around the world.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Country</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1889</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
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<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Moscow, Russia</td>
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<td>1895</td>
<td>Leiden, The Netherlands</td>
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<td>1927</td>
<td>Budapest, Hungary</td>
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<td>1930</td>
<td>Padua, Italy</td>
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<td>1935</td>
<td>Lisbon, Portugal</td>
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<td>1948</td>
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<td>1953</td>
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<td>1958</td>
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<td>1963</td>
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<td>1972</td>
<td>Monte Carlo, Monaco</td>
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<td>2000</td>
<td>Athens, Greece</td>
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<td>2004</td>
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<td>2008</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
<td>France</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>Haifa, Israel</td>
<td>Israel</td>
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Venues of the 1st ICZ in Paris in 1889
Left: Trocadero Palace; Right: Superior School of Pharmacy

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Table of held ICZs, from the 1st in Paris in 1889 to 21st in Haifa in 2012

Zoological Laboratory in Leiden, venue of the 3rd ICZ in the Netherlands in 1895

Cover page of the proceedings of the 4th ICZ held at Cambridge, UK in 1898

Cover page of the proceedings of the 5th ICZ in Berlin, Germany in 1901

Cover page of the proceedings of the 6th ICZ in Berne, Germany in 1904
Cover page of the proceedings of the 8th ICZ in Graz, Austria in 1910

Left: Monaco Prince Albert I attended the 9th ICZ held in Monaco in 1913; Middle: The Portuguese President António de Fragoso Carmona presided the 12th ICZ in Lisbon Portugal in 1935; Right: King Frederick IX of Denmark, the patronage of the 14th ICZ, attended the congress opening at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, 1953

The number of attendees for the first time exceeded 1000 at the 15th ICZ held in London, UK in 1958.

Clipping from NATURE, p434, August 16, 1958, Vol. 182
The Peak at the 16th ICZ in 1963

- Nearly 2500 registrants from more than 60 countries attended, the largest in ICZ long history
- Over 500 contributed papers and demonstrations presented in 30 symposia during the ICZ
- Plenary symposia covered the full spectrum of zoology, from molecular level to that of animal behavior.

Integration into IUBS

At the final plenary session of the 16th ICZ in Washington DC in 1963, a proposal to integrate with the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS) was accepted and the following resolutions were authorized:

(i) To include all the members of the ICZ Permanent Committee in the Board of the Division of Zoology of IUBS,

(ii) To recognize the Board of the Division of Zoology of IUBS as the international body of zoologists responsible for maintaining the continuity of ICZ,

(iii) To consider that henceforth the role of the Permanent Committee of ICZ would be assumed by the Board of the Division of Zoology of IUBS on a much broader basis than before, and that it would be undesirable to maintain two similar international bodies.

Cover page of the proceedings of the 16th ICZ in Washington DC, US in 1963
Long Hiatus after the 17th ICZ in 1972
The popularity of ICZ, however, also created problems. Nobody was prepared to accept responsibility for organizing such a large meeting. Finally, 9 years after the 16th ICZ in Washington in 1963, the 17th ICZ was organized in Monaco in 1972.

As a matter of fact, it was not only just for its scientific reason but also an administrative one: the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature derived its authority of ICZ because it required a vote of ICZ Permanent Committee to confirm (or reject) its decisions so as to safeguard the continuity of its work even though there should be no further ICZ organized.
Furthermore, the 17th ICZ also permitted a number of conclusions, such as the old division between zoology and botany had in many ways become irrelevant at that period. Biological sciences had become specialized in a different way as was indicated by such terms as genetics, ecology, physiology, cellular biology, and behavior. Most of these specialized areas though were served by their own international congresses.

As a result, the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature separated from ICZ and went up to IUBS. ICZ, the oldest international congress, came to a long hiatus afterwards.

Resurrection of ICZ (18th) in Athen’s Greece in 2000

After three decades since the last ICZ in 1972 in Monaco and at the dawn of a new millennium, humans found that they were faced with a global education system that lacked many of the resources necessary to equip a new generation to effectively manage the natural environment.

At the same time, zoology became more vibrant than ever. The concept of integrative
zoology, synthesizing data and results ranging from molecular biology to behavior, gained wide acceptance. Cybernetics also had become the means which could unify the different branches of zoology. Under such scenario, it was found that a multispecialty exchange of views was more necessary than ever before and it was clear that a newly resurrected ICZ was needed.

It was believed and widely accepted that such a congress would permit our scientists to establish contact with specialists in adjacent areas and study problems as the interface of their respective specialties. Such a congress would also force one to take a more distant look at one’s own field and see to what extent its generalizations to fit in with those of other specialized fields.

As a result, the 18th ICZ, after a long hiatus of almost 30 years, was organized in Athens, Greece in 2000.

Left: First Circular of the 18th ICZ; Middle: Some attendees at the 18th ICZ; Right: The cover of the Proceeding of the 18th ICZ

Some organizers and supporters of the 18th ICZ
- The Hellenic Zoological Society
- National & Kapodistrian University of Athens, Greece
- UNESCO/MAB
- IUBS
- International Committee of Zoological Nomenclature
- The Société Zoologique de France

Left: Opening of the 19th ICZ in Beijing in 2004; Right: The Chinese State Councilor,
Chen Zhili, delivering opening remarks at the 19\textsuperscript{th} ICZ in Beijing, China

Some organizers and supporters of the 19\textsuperscript{th} ICZ
- China Zoological Society
- Institute of Zoology, CAS
- China Wildlife Conservation Association
- China International Conference Center for Science and Technology
- Chinese Academy of Sciences
- China Association for Science and Technology
- National Natural Science Foundation of China
- China National Committee for International Union of Biological Sciences
- International Fund for Animal Welfare
- Wildlife Conservation Society

Left: Some attendees at the 20\textsuperscript{th} ICZ in Paris in 2008; Right: The GA of ISZS held at the end of the ICZ in Pairs

Some organizers and supporters of the 20\textsuperscript{th} ICZ
- Université Paris VI (P&M Curie)
- Muséum National d'Histoire Naturelle
- Université Paris XI (Orsay)
- The Natural History Museum of London
- University Paris I
- Région Ile de France
- French Foreign Ministry
- The EDD Department of CNRS, INRA
- The University of Paris VII
- Jacques Monod Institute
- The Société Zoologique de France
- The Linnaean Society of London
- The Société Française de Biologie du Développement
- The Société Française d’Étude du Comportement
- The Société Française de Systématique
- The British Society of Paleontology
- IUBS
Some organizers and supporters of the 21st ICZ
- University of Haifa, Israel
- The Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanity
- Ministry of Science and Technology, Israel
- The Israel Nature and Park Authorities
- Hebrew University of Jerusalem
- The Zoological Society of Israel
- Weizmann Institute of Science and Technology
- The Oranim-Academic College of Education, Israel

Now, after the 18th ICZ in Athens in 2000, the 19th in Beijing in 2004, the 20th in Paris in 2008 and the 21st in Haifa, Israel in 2012, ICZ has been well serving as an international platform and forum to provide a global opportunity to showcase the interdisciplinary study of zoological sciences and to bring together a wider group of scientists concerned with zoology, as well as with its pedagogy, ethics, palaeozoology, and integration with other scientific disciplines.

**Future ICZs:**
The 22nd ICZ will be hosted by ISZS and organized by the Zoological Society of Japan in Okinawa, Japan in 2016, and the 23rd ICZ by ISZS and the Zoological Society of South Africa in Cape Town, South Africa, 2020.