

IASPM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, MAY 1986

The Executive Committee held its 9th meeting in Nijmegen, The Netherlands, May 8-10, 1986.

The Meeting unanimously decided that certain steps needed to be taken to change the way in which branches made financial reports and transferred money to the international Treasurer and to change the way in which the **Review of Popular Music** was distributed. What follows (points i through vi) is an (almost) word for word copy of what appears in the Minutes on the subject:

(i) it was the Feeling of the Meeting that the now distribution methods for the **Review of Popular Music** (whereby **RPM** would be printed from camera-ready copy and distributed by branches) had not resulted in the anticipated increase in Speed with which members received their copies. The Meeting, therefore, decided that, beginning with the first Issue in 1987, the **Review of Popular Music** would be distributed centrally and individually to all members from the point of printing. The cost of mailing would be underwritten by the international treasury. Only those member& listed as in good standing with the international Membership Secretary would receive copies.

(ii) It was decided by the Meeting that each January (commencing with January 1987), the Treasurer would bill each branch for monies owed to the international treasury. Such monies would be due the international treasury on or before April 1 in each year. The monies owed would be computed in terms of the numbers and categories of members that each branch had, as shown on the international membership as of January 1 in each year.

(iii) It was decided by the Meeting that international membership fees would be charged as follows beginning January 1, 1987:

(all amounts are in U.S. dollars)

- Base rate, and unwaged membership, industrialised countries \$ 4.00
- Base rate, institutional membership and Student membership, industrialised countries \$ 6.00
- Individual and institutional membership, industrialised countries \$ 12.00
- Supporting membership \$ 50.00

The rules for household memberships would remain the same (for the previous membership fee structure, see RPM 5). Branches would then be free to charge an amount decided by themselves over and above the international membership Fee to underwrite branch activities. The international and branch fees should be collected as one sum annually.

(iv) members without branches would be charged only the appropriate level of international membership fee. Renewals of such memberships would be effected annually on January 1 by the international membership secretary

(v) The Committee decided that henceforth the existence of branches will be interpreted in strict accordance with the Statutes and Rules of Procedure. At the time of its 9th Meeting, the Executive Committee recognised the following branches: Australia, the Benelux countries, Canada, France, Italy, the Philippines, the U.K. and the U.S.A.

(vi) The international membership list will be reformatted in order to give the category of each member. All branch membership secretaries are responsible for informing periodically the international membership Secretary of new members, and for ensuring that all members of their branch are listed on the international membership list as of December 31 in each year (commencing December 31, 1986).

The purpose of these changes is to give branches more autonomy in terms of deciding how much they will charge to underwrite their own activities, to give the Treasurer an easy way of computing

annually how much money the international Organisation should receive and so to give him a reliable basis on which to draw up annual budgets, and to ensure that information from any source within IASPM gets passed as effectively as possible to all members through **RPM**. There is also clearly a trade Off between branch membership secretaries communicating with the Membership Secretary and members within branches receiving their copy of **RPM** (sneaky!).

Paul Rutten and Larry Grossberg will be writing respectively to branch treasurers and membership secretaries during the autumn to explain the workings of these changes in more detail. It is hoped that these changes will result in procedures that will be more straightforward and easy for all concerned.

The Meeting also took a number of decisions with regard to the Ghana conference, which in going ahead as planned. Most of these decisions were concerned with raising money to help finance the actual Organisation of the Conference and associated Music Festival. It was also decided to publicise the Conference and Music Festival through a press release, and to put together a booklet on both Ghanaian and African music and culture to be distributed to IASPM members early in 1987 in anticipation of the Conference and Music Festival. Further information on the Conference and Music Festival is contained elsewhere in this edition of **RPM**.

There was also a redistribution of responsibilities regarding the Ghana Conference. Stan Rijven (who visited Ghana in February and prepared a joint report with John Collins for the Committee) has kindly agreed to take over from Jan Fairley as Executive Secretary of the Conference Programme Committee (on which Jan remains) and also to coordinate all efforts being made outside Ghana towards the Organisation of the Conference and Music Festival. So anyone with any ideas for the Conference and its Organisation should get in touch with Stan (Lindenstraat 39c, 1015 KV Amsterdam, the Netherlands). The Committee unanimously co-opted Stan to its rank for the duration of its present term.

The Committee appointed a working party (Georgina Born, David Horn and Gunter Mayer) to assess submissions to host the Fifth International Conference on Popular Music Studies (1989). Branches and/or countries interested in hosting the Fifth International Conference should get in touch as soon as possible with the Executive Secretary. The Committee hopes to make a decision regarding the site at its next Meeting, to be held in the U.K. in late November.

The most pressing matter from the point of view of the Publications and Documentations Committee was the sale of Popular Music Perspectives 2. The committee and especially David Horn) hope that members are gobbling up this weighty volume at the Special IASPM price so that monies can be realised for funding further publishing ventures (i.e., the publishing of **PMP 3**, which is presently on hold for financial reasons!). Information on how to buy **PMP 2** at special rates can be found elsewhere in this newsletter. David Horn also reported that the feasibility stage of the **EPMOW (Encyclopaedia of Popular Musics of the World)** project was completed and that news was awaited on the outcome of further funding applications for the continuation of the project.

A number of branch matters were discussed, including the ratification of the Statutes (in French and English) of the Canadian branch. The Committee expects that now branches will very shortly be accredited in Austria, the Federal German Republic, Ghana

-And Japan. This would bring the total number of accredited branches to 12: -Members in areas without branches are encouraged to form them. All you need is five members, and a Secretary and treasurer (you also need to write to the Executive Secretary telling him that you intend to form a branch!). Any chance of a branch in Scandinavia?

The Committee also discussed IASPM's attitude and policies towards South Africa and unanimously thanked Charles Hamm for a letter to the Committee in which he made a number of suggestions regarding additions to IASPM's Statutes and Rules of Procedure and regarding IASPM policies and initiatives. The Committee unanimously endorsed Charles* suggestions, and various Statute additions and General Meeting resolutions will be made public when the wording

has been devised. In the meantime (and this is announced more fully elsewhere in this Newsletter), Charles is interested in mounting a campaign to promote a ban on the distribution of recordings and videos in South Africa.

The Committee felt that IASPM could benefit from having all publicity concerning itself and its activities disseminated centrally. To the end it appointed Marcus Breen as IASPM's first publicity Officer (Marcus kindly acquiesced in this appointment!). All public pronouncements of IASPM will now be uttered in clear, stentorian tones from the Antipodes! Any IASPM members or officers with information useful for promoting IASPM externally should therefore communicate with Marcus (31 Henry Street, Kensington 3031, Victoria, Australia).

Finally, the Committee accepted the kind invitation of the U.S.A. branch to hold its 11th Meeting in conjunction with the 1987 Annual Meeting of the U.S.A. branch, which is to be held in Pittsburgh April 1-3. This is the first occasion on which the Committee will visit the U.S.A., and it is the Committee's hope that the visit will provide an opportunity for input from U.S.A. members on IASPM and its various activities. The Meeting will also be the Committee's last before Ghana. .

John Shepherd, (Executive Secretary)

Published first in RPM#9 (Autumn 1986)