

**IASPM IX General Meeting Minutes**  
**Kanazawa, Japan, July 30th, 1997, 10:30**

**1. Election of Chair and Secretary for the IX general meeting**

Tony Mitchell was elected as Chair and Ales Opekar as secretary.

**2. Adoption of the minutes of the VIII general meeting in Glasgow.**

Philip Tagg commented that it was agreed in Glasgow that the word 'interprofessionality' will be re-introduced to the statutes. It was verified that this has been already done. The Glasgow minutes were unanimously adopted.

**3. Election of Electoral Officers for the IX General Meeting.**

Peter Narvaez and Anna Szemere were elected as Electoral Officers.

**4. Ratification of Agenda for the IX General Meeting**

Upon Ute Bechdorf suggestion, point 9a was added to the agenda (Report of Board of Representatives). Otherwise the agenda was ratified

**5. Acceptance of the 1995-1997 Executive Committee report**

The report was published in RPM 24 and circulated at the present meeting. The report was unanimously accepted.

**6. Election of Two Non-Executive Committee Members to Audit Treasurer's Report to the General Meeting**

It was mentioned that in Glasgow, at the VIII General Meeting, the auditors of the treasurer's report - Philip Tagg and Motti Regev - were asked to communicate with Steve Jones and clarify some questions which remained unclear in his report (he was not able to come to Glasgow). They Both reported that all queries have been completely clarified with Steve Jones.

Shuhei Hosokawa and Hilevi Ganetz were elected to audit the Treasurer's report to the IX General Meeting

**7 and 8. Membership Secretary and Treasurer's report**

Three reports were circulated: Steve Jones' from June 1995; Tony Mitchell's from February 1997 and from July 1997.

- By July 24, 1997, the following branches have paid up for 1997: US, Australia, UK, Nordic, Japan, Slovenia.

- The July 24 report does not contain the cost of RPM 24 that still has to be calculated.

- Ute Bechdorf commented that the German branch became now the German-speaking branch, including members from Austria. She also asked to add to the July 24 report that the German-speaking branch has already paid its dues to 1997 - a point confirmed by Tony Mitchell.

A communication from the Canadian branch, expressing their difficulties in paying their dues owing to the low rate of the Canadian dollar against the US dollar, was read by Tony Mitchell.

He also mentioned that other branches, especially the Latin American, experience the same difficulty. A discussion followed, participated by Philip Tagg, Patria Roman-Velazquez, David Hesmondhalgh, Heinz-Peter Katlewski and others, in which various aspects of the problem were raised. Consequently, the General Meeting accepted by a large majority Rob ? proposition that 'the Executive Committee has the discretion to accept a lower membership fee for members of any branch or individual members experiencing difficulties in paying the basic US dollar rate due to fluctuations in currency exchange'. (there were four [4] votes against).

## **9. Publications**

The Publication officer, Helmi Jarviluoma reported that since the Glasgow conference, three issues of RPM have been published. She emphasised the problems in mailing RPM to all members, caused by branch secretaries' lack of funds. She expressed her hope that a solution will be found. She also raised the need to revise and improve parts of RPM on the e-mail IASPM-list - especially in regard to information on up-coming conferences and other calls for papers. At the moment, such announcements are often published in RPM too late for people to respond to.

The Glasgow proceedings are in print, expected to be out in September, and including seven paper from Stockton that were omitted from that conference proceedings. Each contributor to the conference will get a free copy. The proceedings are published by the University of Tampere, Department of Folk Traditions.

Another point raised by Helmi Jarviluoma was that since IASPM's membership is not large enough to attract the interest of a publisher in launching a journal, the idea of a yearbook has been raised in the Executive Committee. The discussion that followed was concluded by recommending that the incoming Publication Officer, in conjunction with the Executive Committee, will discuss setting up a publication sub-committee to examine these ideas and take them further.

### **9a. Report from The Board of Representatives**

Ute Bechdorf, co-ordinator of The Board of Representatives reported on her contacts with individual members and branches. She found her communication with the Executive Committee and her involvement in its work to be satisfactory. At the Board meeting in Kanazawa, on July 29, there were members from nine branches and one representative of individual members. They discussed the current state in their respective branches. There was also discussion of appointing a web officer (see below, item 14). The Board of Representative was to meet again after the General Meeting to elect a new Co-ordinator.

## **10. Economic Support Sub-Committee**

Heinz-Peter Katlewski referred to the report and suggestions of this sub-committee that was already published in RPM. He expressed his confusion as to the possibility of implementing the suggestions for improving IASPM financial condition. The reason for that, he said, was that many of the sub-committee's ideas contradict some of IASPM's statutes and rules of procedure. Consequently, the following has been accepted: the General Meeting asks the Executive Committee to set up a working group to develop proposals to reform the statutes and other legal procedures (so they will entail possibilities of gaining financial support).

## **11. Location of 10th and 11th IASPM International Conferences in 1999 and 2001**

Tony Mitchell reminded the General Meeting that in Glasgow, Julia Palacios from Mexico proposed to host the 1999 conference in Mexico City. This was accepted by the Executive Committee. Following a long silence she again confirmed her willingness about a week prior to this conference. However, during the conference a fax arrived from Julia to Kanazawa that read as follows:

Dear Friends, First of all I want to apologise for what has been a previous hectic communication, result of lack of communication and misunderstanding on my behalf. I wrote Tony Mitchell offering to hold the 1999 IASPM international conference unaware that Mexico City is going to hold the 1998 Latin conference, as was agreed upon last March in Chile's conference. You can understand, it's almost impossible for the Mexican branch to hold a regional and an international conference one year after the other. So Mexico City will not be able to hold the 1999 international conference. We shall then wait for 2001. Thank you very much for thinking about me as a nominee to be Executive Committee member, but due to the situation I must decline the nomination [for heading the program committee]. I am extremely sorry for all this coming and going of misunderstandings. I hope we did not cause much inconvenience to you. and please accept my apologies once again. Let the music flow at Kanazawa and have a successful conference. Regards, Julia Palacios

The Meeting was also told that the Australian - New Zealand branch is currently proposing Sydney to hold the conference in 1999.

Bruce Johnson, speaking as the Chair person of the Australian - New Zealand branch, remarked that originally the Sydney proposal was for 2001, and that two years in advance is a short time for organizing a conference, especially since Sydney is all 'booked up' for the Olympic the Chair person of the Australian - New Zealand branch remarked that originally the Sydney proposal was for 2001, it might be obstacles.

As the invitation to 2001 to Mexico seems weak at the moment, Helmi Jarviluoma suggested the possibility of having the 2001 conference in Finland

The General Meeting accepted that the 1999 conference will be held in Sydney and the 2001 conference will be held either in Mexico City or in Finland.

## **12. Election of the Executive Committee 1997-1999**

The General Meeting elected the following Executive Committee for 1997-1999:

Tony Mitchell - Chair

Motti Regev - General Secretary

David Hesmondhalgh - Treasurer and Membership Secretary

Heinz-Peter Katlewski - Publication Officer

Anna Szemere - Member at Large

All these persons were nominated by the out-going Executive Committee. There were no other nominees. Prior to election, each nominee briefly introduced him/herself. Each was elected unanimously.

## **13. Oppressed Musicians and the Freedom of Expression**

Following their special session on the subject early in the Conference, Johan Fornas, Hilevi Ganetz and Martin Cloonan said they do not see how at the moment IASPM, as an organisation, can do much on the subject. They did announce, however, an initiative to produce a book on this issue, edited by Reebee Garofalo and Martin Cloonan, and called people to submit chapters. They also proposed to have another session on the subject in the Sydney conference, and in the following conferences as well.

The General Meeting then applauded and officially expressed its thanks and support to Johan Fornas, Hilevi Ganetz and Martin Cloonan for their initiative regarding this issue.

## **14. Any Other Business**

### **A. Encyclopaedia of Popular Musics of the World**

This project was initially proposed within IASPM. Paul Oliver told the meeting that prior to the actual Encyclopaedia, Kassel - the current publisher - is putting out this summer a volume of select international bibliography of popular musics of the world.

Dave Laing invited people who have not been approached yet to contribute to the Encyclopaedia.

### **B. Web Officer**

Philip Tagg proposed and the meeting accepted the appointment of a web officer who would be responsible for establishing a web site from which, according to key words, it will be possible to systematically access the prolifera of music sites that exist out there on the web. The names of Steve Jones, Michael Christianen and Ian Wally were mentioned as candidates.

### **C. Larry Witzleben proposed and the Meeting accepted the following: RPM, the IASPM web site and IASPM promotional materials will clearly indicate that the Association **welcomes members from areas with no regional branch**, and will provide information on how to**

become members.

The procedures for establishing new regional branches be made readily available to members

- D. Philip Hayward raised the issue of **support for people from non OECD countries** who have difficulties in financing their participation in the international Conferences - especially musicians and cultural activists. Some discussion followed in which it was revealed that the practice of subsidising such person does exist. The point of whether to formalise such a procedure remained undecided.
- E. Bruce Johnson, as Chair of the branch that will organise the **next international conference**, expressed the thanks and appreciation of all participants to the organisers of the Kanazawa conference - a terrific conference. A vote of thanks was also made to the out-going Executive Committee.

## **15. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:45

**Motti Regev**  
General Secretary