**Minutes of the Eighth Council Meeting**

**Asian Crystallographic Association  (AsCA)**

**Held in association with the**

**XVIII lUCr Congress and General Assembly, Glasgow, Scotland.**

**Date: 9th August 1999; 15.30**

**Venue: The Etive Room, Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre**

**Attended by National and/or Regional delegates from:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Australia | Dr C.J. Howard (Vice-President) | cjh@ansto.gov.au |
|   | Professor J.W. White | jww@rsc.anu.edu.au |
| Bangladesh | Professor A. Hussain | nitub@bangla.net |
| China | Professor Z. Zhang (President) | zhang@image.blem.ac.cn |
|   | Professor Z. Rao | raozh@tsinghua.edu.cn |
|   | Professor Wang Tieliang |   |
| Hong Kong | Professor T.C.W. Mak | tcwmak@cuhk.edu.hk |
|   | Dr I.D. Williams | chwill@ust.hk |
| India | Dr K.Lal | klal@csnpl.ren.nic.in |
|   | Professor M. Vijayan | mv@mbu.iisc.emet.in |
| Indonesia | (absent) |   |
| Japan | Professor H. Toraya | toraya@crl.nitech.ac.jp |
|   | Professor Y Ohashi | yohashi@chem.titech.ac.jp |
| Korea | Professor Young-Ja Park | yjpark@sookmyung.ac.kr |
| New Zealand | Professor J. Simpson | jsimpson@alkali.otago.ac.nz |
| Malaysia | Dr Kong Mun Lo | kmlo@kimia.um.edu.my |
| Pakistan | (absent) |   |
| Philippines | (absent) |   |
| Singapore | (absent) |   |
| Sri Lanka | (absent) |   |
| Taiwan | Professor Yu Wang | yuwang@xtal.ch.ntu.edu.tw |
|   | Professor S-L Chang | slchang@phys.nthu.edu.tw |
| Thailand | Prof P. Phavanantha | phatana.p@newton.phys.sci.chula.ac.th |
| Vietnam | Professor N. Van Tri | nvtri@mail.hut.edu.vn |

**Ex Officio member**

Australia          Professor S R Hall (AsCA Trustee)

1        Apologies were **accepted** from Prof W.T. Robinson (New Zealand)

2        The minutes of the Seventh Council Meeting held on 13th October 1998 in Bangi, Malaysia were **confirmed** with three typographical amendments.

3        There were no matters arising from these minutes.

4        The President, Professor Zhang, presented a verbal report in which he emphasised that the AsCA conference was the major task undertaken by the Association in the preceding three years. He acknowledged the significant encouragement given to young scientists through attendance at the conference with support from both the Regional Associates and the lUCr. He gratefully acknowledged support for AsCA initiatives from the lUCr and other sponsors.

Professor Zhang also highlighted difficulties faced by the Association as a result of crystallographers also being involved with other learned societies. This often led to difficult choices having to be made in terms of attendance at crystallographic meetings. He urged that all crystallographers in the region be encouraged to give their strong support to meetings arranged by the Association.

The Council **accepted** the President's report and thanked Professor Zhang for his work for the Association.

5        **Financial report:** The trustees of AsCA funds in Australia (Professor Hall) and Japan (Professor Ohashi) reported the account balances as follows:

The balances in the Australian accounts were:

Savings 6054650967                                     $A 5,063.73

Term 036054122235                                   $A 12,610.46

Term 036054100837                                   $A 11,798.25

Total                                                            $A 29,472.44

Japanese Account balance                              JY 573,560

Professor Lal also indicated that he had received a cash sum of JY59,000 from Professor Harada.

Professor Hall suggested that there would be advantages to the Association if a proportion of the funds held for the Association in Australia was transferred from a savings account into a fixed term account where it would attract a better rate of interest. It was proposed that the Association invest approximately 50% of the funds held in Australia in this way. The proposal was carried unanimously.

Professor Hall also reported on the current status of membership dues from the category II and III countries in the Association. Invoices for overdue amounts should be sent to the appropriate member countries in order to get the accounts up to date.

The Council agreed to accept the Financial Report.

6        **Final report** on AsCA'98

The Council received a detailed report from Professor Shi-Lin Chang on AsCA'98 on behalf of the International Organising Committee, the International Programme Committee and the Local Organising Committee. In speaking to the report Professor Chang highlighted the excellent attendance of young scientists at the meeting and the importance of the sponsors contributions to the success of the meeting. The report contained a number of suggestions for consideration by organisers of future AsCA conferences.

A vote of thanks to the organising committees of AsCA'98 was carried with acclamation**.**

**7        Financial report on AsCA'98**

The Council **received** a report on the final budget for AsCA'98 presented by Dr Kong Mun Lo on behalf of the Local Organising Committee. Accounts for the meeting totalled $US55,437 with an excess of income over expenditure of $US3,372 after repayment of the initial AsCA operating grant of $AUS5,000. In discussion on the report it was noted that15 students were supported from lUCr funds and that attendance at the meeting was as follows:

Full participants                                  206

Student participants                              79

Accompanying persons                         15

It was noted that the executive should approve expenditure relating to the conference programme. It was also suggested that budgets for future conferences should be set with a 20% allowance for contingencies.

**8        Venue for the 4th AsCA Conference, AsCA'01.**

The Council **received** a document outlining a proposal to hold the 2001 meeting of the Association in Bangalore. Professor Vijayan spoke to the proposal. Dr Williams also presented a proposal to hold the meeting in Hong Kong, China and detailed the facilities offered by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

The choice of venue for the 2001 meeting was put to a vote of Councillors. The proposal to hold AsCA'01 in Bangalore, India was endorsed**.** It was agreed that representatives of the Crystallographic Community in Bangalore should proceed with planning for the meeting and that details concerning dates for the meeting should be circulated to AsCA members at the earliest opportunity.

**9        Proposal to amend the AsCA Constitution**

The Council discussed a proposal to change item 3 (a) of the existingAsCA constitution as follows:

*3(a) Membership shall be open to those countries and regions (which are hereafter referred to as "countries") within the Asian region bounded by Japan, Korea, China, Pakistan, India, Australia and New Zealand*.

Proposed amendment:

*3 (a) Membership shall be limited to those countries and regions(which are hereafter referred to as "countries") in Asia, inclusive of Oceania*.

In discussion it was noted that the term "Oceania" was somewhat vague and that the requirements of the amendment could be met by adding a clause to the existing item as follows:

*3 (a) Membership shall be open to those countries and regions (which are hereafter referred toas "countries") within the Asian region bounded by Japan, Korea, China, Pakistan, India, Australia and New Zealand and such other neighbouring countries as may be, from time to time, admitted by the Council*.

This new wording was formally proposed and seconded and the amendment was carried unanimously.

10      **Election of Officers and Chairs** of the International Organising Committee and the International Programme Committee for AsCA'01

**President**: Two nominations were received;

Dr K. Lal (India)

Professor Y. Ohashi (Japan)

Professor **Ohashi** was duly elected

**Vice president**: Two nominations were received;

Professor Shih-Lin Chang (Taiwan)

Professor J. Simpson (NewZealand)

Professor **Simpson** was duly elected.

**Secretary/Treasurer**:Two nominations were received;

Professor Shih-Lin Chang (Taiwan)

Dr Z.Rao (China)

Professor **Chang** was duly elected.

**Chair of the International Organising Committee** for AsCA'01: The only nomination to be received was that of Dr Z. Rao (China). The outgoing President therefore declared Dr Rao to be elected unopposed.

**Chair of the International Programme Committee** for AsCA'01: The only nomination to be received was that of Dr C.J. Howard (Australia). The outgoing President therefore declared Dr Howard to be elected unopposed.

The retiring President then handed over the Chair to Professor Ohashi.

**11      Other business.**

Professor Young-Ja Park indicated that Korea wished to be upgraded to the status of a Category II country in accordance with sections 4(a) and 5 (a) of the constitution of the Association. The Council unanimously **approved** this proposal.