

Minutes
Meeting of the IUPsyS Assembly
2002
Singapore
July 11

Delegates:

A total of 40 delegates (National Members and members of the Executive Committee), representing 22 countries, were present at the Assembly session.

Argentina: M.C.R. Minzi

Australia: B. Martin; J. M. Innes

Belgium: M. Schittekatte; *G.
d'Ydewalle

Canada: J. Gauthier; *J. Adair; *P.
Ritchie; *M. Sabourin

Chile: R. Salas

China: *H. Zhang; W. Zhongming
(partial)

Colombia: *R. Ardila

Czech Republic: D. Heller

Finland: T. Tikkanen

France: M. Carlier; P. Lemaire; *M.
Denis

Germany: *R. Silbereisen

Italy: P. Fumai

Japan: K. Sigemasu; *H. Imada

Mexico: L. Hernandez-Guzman; *J.
Sanchez-Sosa

Netherlands: F.A. Albersnagel; *Y.
Poortinga

Norway: A.-M. Aanonsen; B. Rund

Singapore: E. Nair

South Africa: A. Watts; L. Nicholas;
*S. Cooper

Spain: H. Carpintero; J. Prieto

Turkey: *C. Kagitçibasi

United Kingdom: *I. Lunt

United States: M. Hakel; B. Tversky;
*M. Bullock; *B. Overmier

* denote Executive Committee
Members

Official Representatives of Affiliated Organisations:

European Professional Psychologists Associations: **T. Tikkanen**

International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology (IACCP): **K. Boehnke, P.
Smith**

Norwegian Psychological Association: **T. Pedersen**

Committee for the Psychological Study of Peace: **D. Bretherton**

Observers:

Argentina: J.E. Moreno

China: Prof. Jing

Germany: B. Velichovsky

Nigeria: A. Mogaji; J. Y. Mivanyi

Norway: T. B. Pedersen

South Africa: R. Lockhat, K. Ratele;
S. Suffia; C. Malcolm

Sweden: B. Berglund

Zambia: K. Chipeta

MINUTES

1. Call to Order: Roll call to certify delegates

The President called the meeting to order and welcomed all delegates, observers and guests. Sabourin read the roll to certify delegates. Secretary-General Ritchie announced that quorum was attained with 39 delegates (1 additional delegate arrived during the meeting). He explained that according to the Statutes, the attained quorum is sufficient to vote on all items except those requiring changes to the Statutes, which would require 2/3 of all those eligible to vote.

2. Consideration of the Agenda

The President called for additions to the agenda.

Gauthier (Canada) moved to add under item 24. *International Initiatives* an action item to develop a universal declaration of ethical principles for psychologists. **The motion was approved**

Gauthier (Canada) proposed moving Item 24 forward in the agenda to be considered before Item 17. **The motion was approved.**

Hakel (USA) proposed adding a discussion item under 24 -- the US national committee is seeking advice about a women's health initiative. **The motion was approved.**

The President asked for a moment of silence in honor of Andrei Brushlinsky (Russia), Assembly member and Director of the Institute of Psychology of the Russian Academy of Sciences, whose untimely and tragic death occurred last year in Moscow.

3. Membership issues

Category O (Observer) The President made two announcements:

- × a request from Morocco to be placed in the Observer Category (O) was approved by the EC
- × Zimbabwe has moved from the Observer Category (O) to voting Category A.

4. Minutes

4.1 2000 Assembly Minutes

The Assembly minutes were approved via email

4.2 2001 EC Minutes

The EC Minutes were approved via email and are now on the web

5. Report of the President

The President began his report with a consideration of the Union's name:

International Union of Psychological Science.

× ***International.*** The Union is *international* because it covers issues that are international and that require an international perspective. The Union affirms its leadership and interactions with international NGO's and bodies like ICSU and ISSC, and participates with the UN, ECOSOC, WHO, and others. The objective of these activities is to highlight the presence of psychological science in international contexts.

× ***Union:*** The *Union* is a union of National Members. The Union is ready to help and provide assistance to members, and is willing to develop ways to be of more service in countries where psychology is emerging. Because the Union addresses needs at an international, not national level, it focuses on regional development and more global issues. These goals are supported by ARTS, regional activities, and the symposium on national capacity building. In support of this union, there should be increased communication with National Members, which will be discussed later in the meeting. The President also welcomed National Members to make contact with and visit EC members and their institutions.

× ***Psychological science.*** Since the Union was founded 1951, it has supported *psychological science*, an aim that is explicit in the statutes. This support is carried out

through membership in such bodies as ICSU and ISSC. Also, the Union entertains close relationships with other international unions spanning a broad range of disciplines from biological to social sciences, especially IBRO, IUBS, IGU, CODATA. This interdisciplinary aspect is also a feature of the Union's activities. The Union addresses psychology in the world and interdisciplinary science context. Although the phrase "psychological science" may seem unusual to some for an organization that represents psychology in its varieties, there are well-founded historical reasons for the Union to adopt this expression. It is also important to recognize that psychology in professional and practice contexts requires the application of scientific principles as well. Scientific principles need to be applied wherever psychology is active, in research or service.

The President then addressed the activities of the meeting – and noted that some of the items address possible changes to the Union Statutes. As President, he took it as his purview to safeguard that any changes proposed would be necessary to accomplish the Assembly's wishes and goals of the Union.

6. Report of the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General covered a number of issues including:

- × Methods of transmitting documents to Assembly members and increased use of electronic means
- × An overview of Secretariat activities: The Secretary-General and Secretariat serve as a clearinghouse and broker for information coming to the Union. The workload of the Secretariat has increased in each two year block so that now the amount of work devoted in the current two years to Union activities is the equivalent of a half-time position – approximately 2500 hours by the Secretary-General along with .40 time secretarial help. This workload will affect how the union wants to function and allocate resources.
- × A need to increase communications: although the transmission of information, facilitation of specific projects and representational functions all work well, there needs to be increased communication with National Members. Communication has been enhanced through the website, but there is little direct contact. Although there are a few mailings, it would be optimal to increase outreach.

The report ended with what the Secretary-General referred to as a paradox of the Union – that it is possible to do an enormous amount with available resources, but this capacity could be greatly enhanced with increased resources. To accomplish this and to take full advantage of international psychology opportunities requires activities under the rubric of strategic planning.

7. Report of the Treasurer

The Treasurer presented a 10-year overview of revenues and expenses, a more detailed review for 2000-2001, and presented the 2002 budget. He noted that the Union has a projected deficit because prior sources of revenue (from the 1996 Congress) have ended, and noted that it will be necessary to more proactively search for alternate revenue sources. The Treasurer also announced that there may be a proposal for dues revision that would be voted in the 2004 Assembly meetings to go into effect in 2005.

The report was received.

8. Statutes and Rules of Procedure

The President noted that a number of items on the agenda referred to aspects of the Statutes and Rules of Procedure. To provide a context for these items, he called on Lunt to describe the impetus for these items.

Lunt noted that the EC had established an ad hoc group to evaluate whether the present Union Statutes and Rules of Procedure were appropriate for current goals and activities, with a special focus on transparency, democracy and accountability. The ad hoc group developed a report that was discussed in 2001 in the EC meeting in Beijing. This report highlighted some issues in the ways the Union operates and stressed the importance of increasing active involvement of the General Assembly and National Members. A report from the ad hoc group, submitted for this General Assembly meeting, includes specific proposals for deliberation and provides conceptual background for the proposals. Lunt continued that one goal is to receive guidance from the General Assembly on the directions it would like to see, particularly on items 8 (election procedures and the constitution of the EC) and 12 (strategic planning). The specific proposals concern a call for strategic planning, increased communication with National Members, and a number of changes to the Statutes and Rules of Procedure.

8.1 Amendment of Statutes and Rules of Procedure: The Secretary-General referred the Assembly to the documents sent to delegates.

8.1.1 Nominations and Elections

8.1.1.1 Nomination of President and Vice-Presidents and initial eight members of the Executive Committee -Rules of Procedures, Section III: Article (5): The Assembly may not [decide to] receive additional nominations at the time of its first session during an International Congress of Psychology, except when there are less than two nominations for a particular position. In that case, the Election Committee shall present an up-dated second report to the Assembly at [in] the beginning of its second session during that International Congress of Psychology.

Rules of Procedures, Section III: Article (6): (b) If additional nominations are required, [E] each nomination for a member to be elected only from among Assembly Members needs to be seconded by at least one further Assembly Member at the first session of the Assembly during an International Congress of Psychology. [Additional nominations may be made by the same procedure at the second session of the Assembly.] In order to be valid, each nomination must include a *curriculum vitae* [cv.] and the written agreement by the person nominated in accordance with Rule III.2 above. c) If additional nominations are required, [F] following completion of these nominations, the Election Committee shall present a final report at the second Assembly session.

The Secretary-General explained that the intent is to ensure that nominations are received and known in advance of the Assembly meeting, and that there would only be additional nominations from the floor when the regular procedure had not generated a sufficient number of candidates.

The Assembly voted to adopt the revised text.

8.1.1.2 Procedure for Tie votes

Rules of Procedures, Section III: Article (6):

(g) The President and Vice-Presidents shall be elected by the highest number of votes.

The eight members elected under (e) shall be elected in no more than two ballots. In the first ballot a member is elected by absolute majority of votes. If a second ballot is necessary in order to obtain sufficient members, the second ballot will consist of no more than twice as many candidates as the number of positions to be filled in the second ballot. For this second ballot the remaining list of candidates is reduced to this number by striking out any candidate coming from a country already represented among those elected in the first ballot; if necessary, the number of candidates for the second ballot is reduced further by striking out those who received the lowest number of votes in the first ballot. In this second ballot those with the highest number of votes shall be elected. The two members elected under (f) shall be elected by the highest number of votes. In the event of a tie vote for the second remaining position to be elected under (f), only the candidates who are tied will be submitted to the Assembly for an additional ballot. Should there still be a tie, only those candidates now tied will be submitted to the Assembly for a second additional ballot. Should that ballot result in a tie, the President will determine the outcome by the toss of a coin. The Secretary-General explained that this was a "housekeeping" amendment to increase clarity in the Rules of Procedure in the event of a tie vote.

The Assembly voted to adopt the revised text.

8.1.1.3 Speeches by candidates for President and Vice-President

Rules of Procedures, Section III: Article 6 (h):

No speeches favoring any candidate shall be made although factual information of a biographical nature may be presented when deemed desirable by the President and when Assembly members ask for it. Each candidate for President and Vice-President will be provided the opportunity to make a brief statement to the Assembly immediately following the Election Committee's final report at the second Assembly session. The President shall ensure that no statement exceeds three minutes.

The Secretary-General explained that the intent is to increase fairness and to create a uniform playing field for candidates.

The Assembly voted to adopt the revised text.

8.1.1.4 Appointment and ratification of Secretary General, Treasurer and Deputy Secretary General - Statutes, Article 13, 16; and addition to Rules of Procedure

Procedure

Statutes, Article 13, new sub-Article (b):

To ratify, in accordance with the rules of procedure, the election of the Secretary-General, the Deputy Secretary-General, and the Treasurer.

Statutes, Article 16:

The duties and powers of the Executive Committee are the following:

(a) To recommend to the Assembly at the time of an International Congress of Psychology, in accordance with the rules of procedure, the election, [appoint] not necessarily from among the delegates to the Assembly, of a Secretary-General, a Deputy Secretary-General, and a Treasurer of the Union. These shall be voting members of the Executive Committee and of the Assembly.

The Secretary-General explained that the intent of this item was to increase transparency and to provide greater legitimacy to these positions within the Union. However, it was not possible to call this item for a vote, because the quorum necessary for Statutes change was not attained at this Assembly meeting.

Discussion concerned the differences between full elections for these positions and the present appointment-ratification mechanism, which is modeled on the ICSU procedure. It was noted that these are functional positions (for which specific skills are

required) that require a screening of candidates for the position. In some organizations these positions are political positions, which is possible in an organization with paid staff in which there could be a distinction between governance and management. The issue for the Union is how to blend roles that are collegial in nature with accountability element to the Assembly.

Lively discussion continued with consideration of the status of the Secretary-General, Treasurer and Deputy Secretary-General positions on several dimensions: whether they were appointed or elected; voting rights of EC members; and roles and responsibilities of the EC and the EC officers, and definitions of EC officers, and voting rights of appointed EC members in the EC, and of EC members in the Assembly. It was noted that there is not consensus on this issue in the EC, nor in the Assembly. The EC will continue discussion on this item and bring a proposal to the General Assembly in 2004.

8.1.2 Annual Dues

8.1.2.1 Procedure for revising unit value

Rules of Procedure, Section II (2):

One year preceding each meeting of the Assembly [International Congress], the Treasurer prepares a budget based, in part, on the value of the units of contributions expected from the National Members. After consideration of this budget, the Executive Committee makes a recommendation regarding the value of a unit. This recommendation is sent by the Secretary-General to the delegates of the National Members who will be called upon to vote on this recommendation at the Assembly. The Treasurer explained that the text was being revised to reflect the new Assembly schedule of meeting every two years, rather than every four years.

The Assembly voted to adopt the revised text

9. Report of the Standing Committee on Communications and Publications

Chair d'Ydewalle referred to his written report which covered last year and to the annual report, which covered the last two years' activities. He highlighted some aspects of the communications/publication activities, including

- × There have been two major changes in the International Journal of Psychology – the journal has become a monolingual English journal with abstracts in three languages (English, French, Spanish); a new Editor was appointed and began work in 2002 (Laura Hernandez-Guzman).
- × Other communications vehicles include the 2002 CD Rom, the enhanced Website, an electronic newsletter to begin publication in the fall;
- × Current publications include the International Handbook, the Stockholm Proceedings that were published in 2002, and the History Book (published in 2000) which will be available on a forthcoming edition of the CD ROM;
- × Publications in preparation include the Conceptual History project

10. Report of the Standing Committee on Research and Special Projects

The General Assembly was referred to the [Annual Report](#) for a summary of activities.

11. Report of the Standing Committee on the Development of Psychology as a Science and as a Profession

Chair Sanchez-Sosa introduced the item and gave the floor to Poortinga to lead a discussion of the draft working paper, *Psychology as a science and a profession*, which

had been circulated to Assembly members. Poortinga reviewed the history and structure of the paper. He noted that the purpose of the document was to stimulate discussion among members to indicate how the Union can be of use to the science and practice of psychology, to its National Members, and how the Union can best meet its members' expectations. He articulated the hope that the Assembly will provide its views to the Executive Committee about the Union's function as a platform for members and sponsor of international congresses; and about future priorities and activities.

Discussion included further clarification of the term "professional" which often carries the connotation of "practitioner"; discussion of specific activities including capacity building and promotion of science/professional issues. Because this item was linked to the next item on consultation, it was decided to combine further discussion with that item.

12. EC consultation with Assembly

12.1 Aims, functions and structure of the Union and 12.2 Strategic Planning

(See item 8 for introduction by Lunt).

A number of discussion topics were covered. These included:

- × The interplay between strategic planning and opportunism. Discussion was mixed -- although there was support for being strategic and planful in allocating resources, and although there was support for long-range planning for some general activities (Congress, journal, international dissemination activities), there was acknowledgement that other activities must be undertaken in a more opportunistic manner as needs and resources arise.
- × Priorities. There was general agreement that discussion of priorities should be a regular activity in both the Assembly and the EC.
- × Fundraising. There was acknowledgement of a need to foster fundraising activities
- × Outreach. There was a call to foster broader and more public consultation on events of international significance
- × Science. There was a caution to remember the Union goal with respect to fostering science and with respect to relations with international bodies such as ICSU, IBRO, and other science organizations.
- × National Member Values. A suggestion to poll National Members about their values with respect to the Union role and mission and the relation between science and professional concerns.

The Assembly was encouraged to continue contemplation and discussion of these issues and to provide input to the EC.

12.3 Number of required votes for Statute Change

Nicholas (South Africa) proposed changing the IUPsyS Statutes to allow 2/3 of the in vivo quorum required for an Assembly meeting to be held as the requisite number for votes for Statute changes. Article 13b states that a positive vote of 2/3 of all eligible voters is required to change Union statutes. The proposal is to change this to 2/3 of those present, assuming quorum has been achieved.

Motion: the EC is charged with (a) developing a motion to modify the statutes to allow a modification of the statutes by a vote of 2/3 of those present at an Assembly meeting rather than 2/3 of all possible voters; and (b) sending this motion to members via mail for voting.

Discussion of the motion was mixed. Some were concerned that it was premature to propose one statute change in isolation from deliberations across the entire picture, and suggested email contact with National Members outlining general and possible plans of action that will be voted on in Beijing. It was agreed that it is important to contact National Members to inform them of the present meeting and to collect input

on future deliberations.

Another concern was that statute change by as little as 35% of all eligible voters (2/3 quorum, where quorum is defined as half of all those eligible to vote) would be anti-democratic because it would depend on the fortuitous presence of National Members. Discussion also concerned the value in having Statutes difficult or easy to change. It was recognized that statute change should be a relatively infrequent occurrence.

The Assembly voted to adopt the motion.

Nicholas (South Africa) proposed altering the election procedures (Section 3, part 6) so that nominees for the last two members of the EC would come from regions underrepresented on the EC. Discussion focused on the difficulty of defining terms such as "underrepresented" and "region". It was noted that a function of the elections committee is to foster geographical representation.

Motion: The EC is directed to create an amendment to the Rules to Procedure to make explicit that the last two members of the Executive Committee are to be elected from nominees from regions in the world underrepresented by the initial 8 EC members.

The motion did not carry.

A final motion concerned followup from the Assembly consultation:

Motion: The EC is directed to use the discussion from the Assembly meeting to clarify how to improve transparency in Union activities and decision making and how to engage in planning for consideration by the Assembly in 2004.

The motion was adopted.

13. International Congresses of Psychology

13.1 XXVII Congress (Stockholm, 2000) Final Report

The final formal report was submitted to the 2001 EC.

13.2 XXVIII Congress (Beijing, 2004) Progress Report

A report was given by Kan Zhang on preparations for the Congress.

13.3 XXIX Congress (Berlin, 2008) Progress Report

Silbereisen reported that preparations for the 2008 Congress are on schedule and referred Assembly members to the Congress web site (www.icp2008.de)

14. Advanced Research Training Seminars

This was an information item and the Assembly was directed to the report supplied with meeting materials.

15. Elections Committee

Carlier (France) and Aanonson (Norway) were elected to serve on the 2004 Elections Committee

16. Regional Conferences

16.1 2001 South Asia Regional Conference

16.2 Future Regional Conferences

Several venues for future regional conferences are being considered. Information will be transmitted to Assembly members at a later time.

17. Report of the Committee on the Psychological Study of Peace

The Assembly was referred to the [Annual Report](#).

18. International Council for Science (ICSU)

The Assembly was referred to the [Annual Report](#).

19. International Social Science Council (ISSC)

The Assembly was referred to the [Annual Report](#).

20. United Nations Secretariat (New York)

The Assembly was referred to the [Annual Report](#).

21. UNESCO

The Assembly was referred to the [Annual Report](#).

22. World Health Organization (WHO)

The Assembly was referred to the [Annual Report](#).

23. Organizations affiliated with IUPsyS

23.1 Report of the IUPsyS -IAAP Joint Committee

Denis reported on the meeting and noted that the organizations are committed to pursue ARTS vigorously, with an effort to make training available to more people at each Congress. For every Congress there will be a liaison from IUPsyS, IAAP and ICCP. It was reported that the IAAP first choice for the 2010 Congress is Australia. It was reported that IUPsyS, IAAP and EFPA had signed a Memorandum of Agreement for information exchange and promotion of international congresses..

23.2 Reports from affiliated organizations

Information about Congresses and contacts was as follows:

- ✕ International Congress 2003 Europe, Vienna
- ✕ The IACCP confirmed involvement in regional congresses and ARTS
- ✕ ISSBD International Congress in Ottawa in August 2002; next in Ghent
- ✕ International Society for Comparative Psychology next meeting will be in conjunction with the ICP in Beijing

24. International Psychology Initiatives

24.1 World Forum

It was noted that the World Forum occurs during each international Congress.

24.2 Decade of Behavior

There was a brief update on activities

24.3 Psychology Prize

The Assembly asked the EC to develop a proposal with criteria and timelines for the 2004 Assembly.

24.4 Ethics initiative

There was a proposal to work on a universal Declaration of Ethics for Psychology. It was noted that there is tremendous variation across codes of ethics in form, content, usefulness, rate of development, so that psychologists in different parts of the world are provided with different levels of ethics guidance and different levels of protection. The proposal was to develop statements of universal ethical principles for psychologists, not standards.

Motion: that the EC create a working group to develop a universal declaration of ethical principles for psychologists. The group would be charged with developing a report and draft resolution for presentation to the 2004 Assembly.

The Motion carried.

24.5 Health initiative.

The USNC is seeing input from other National Members on an initiative on Women's Health. Hakel (in an email) said:

As chair of the United States National Committee for the International Union of Psychological Science, I would appreciate any guidance and suggestions you can obtain from members of the IUPsyS Executive Committee on the topic of a collaborative initiative on women's health. Beginning in the next program year, USNC-IUPsyS intends to focus a major part of its agenda on stimulating research and application to promote women's health and education.

We are especially aware of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in sub-Saharan Africa. In 2002, an estimated 32,000,000 people around the world are infected with HIV, and 24,000,000 of them live in sub-Saharan Africa. 83% of HIV infected infants live in Africa, and 95% of the world's children orphaned under the age of 14, due to HIV/AIDS. Each day there are about 14,000 new HIV infections worldwide, but 95% of them happen to people living in developing countries, 14% happen to children under 15 years of age, about 50% to those aged 15 to 24 years, and about 50% to women. Of the estimated 3,000,000 deaths due to HIV/AIDS during 2001, 76% were in sub-Saharan Africa.

Health and education are two key factors in promoting well-being, and psychological science has so much to contribute to both domains. We characterize this as a health initiative because health presents the immediate challenge--the world should not merely wait for the development of a vaccine. Educational interventions can achieve some immediate impacts on health, and raising the long term level of women's educational attainment can affect birth rates and economic security.

We have not yet committed to a specific goal, set of objectives, and tactical plan. Thus, ideas and suggestions, both formal and informal from every source, are welcome. We expect to enlist participation from psychological researchers and

associations in the United States, and we hope to attract interest and involvement from research communities internationally and also in related disciplines. The national committees of IUPsyS member countries and their supporting societies and associations constitute a tremendous intellectual resource, and as a fellow national committee, we especially hope to learn their views on how best to proceed.

25. Time and place of the next Assembly meeting

The next General Assembly meeting will be held in Beijing, China. Session 1 will be August 9, 2004; Session 2 will be August 11, 2004.

26. Adjournment