

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR FORENSIC HAEMOGENETICS (ISFH) ON SEPTEMBER 20, 1991 IN THE KURFÜRSTLICHE SCHLOSS ZU MAINZ (17.00 - 18.20)

TOP 1 Welcome by the President

B. Brinkmann opened the General Assembly and welcomed the participants. He extended the thanks of the Executive Committee and of the participants of the meeting to Ch. Rittner, the Congress President, to P. Schneider (the Congress Secretary) and to all persons who contributed to the success of the conference.

TOP 2 To Commemorate the Dead

The death of the following members was brought to the attention of the Executive Committee since the last General Assembly:

G. Dotzauer, D. Dykes, E. Fritz, W. Maresch, J. Rauschke, W. Weber and H. Wiegand.

The President asked the Assembly to stand in commemoration of the dead.

TOP 3 Adoption of the Protocol of the General Assembly in New Orleans, October 20, 1989

The Executive Committee had not received any comments regarding the minutes of the last General Assembly. Since nobody asked for discussion, the above-mentioned protocol was adopted.

TOP 4 Report of the Executive Committee and the Auditors of the Account

4.1. Report of the President

B. Brinkmann reported that the Executive Committee had handled its business since the last congress in only 4 sessions.

He presented the wish of the EDNAP (European DNA Profiling Association) to become a Working Party of the ISFH. This request was accepted unanimously.

He suggested that the DNA Commission should continue its work (under the chair of B. Budowle). The main topics in future will be: quality assurance, nomenclature, use of the PCR. This suggestion was also accepted without any objections.

With regards to the scientific award (which has been awarded in 1991 to M. Hochmeister - Institute for Legal Medicine, University of Berne), the President suggested that all members of the ISFH should be allowed to submit well-founded propositions to whom the award can be conferred. This topic was also accepted unanimously.

Furthermore, B. Brinkmann reported that the proceedings of the 13th Congress in New Orleans "Advances in Forensic Haemogenetics 3" were an enormous success. In order to publish the proceedings of the Congress in Mainz without delay, the papers should be submitted to Ch. Rittner before October 15, 1991.

4.2. Report of the Secretary

W. Mayr reported that the total number of members of the ISFH on September 20, 1991 was 695 (in comparison, the number of members in September 1989 was 572). Despite the increase in this figure, some publicity would be needed to recruit more members; all members of the ISFH were asked to be active in this respect.

4.3. Report of the Treasurer

P. Lincoln reported that the total balance was 192.057,41 DM (including the fund for the scientific award), i.e. approximately 13.500,00 DM more than in 1989. Because of this good balance, it was decided not to increase the membership fee.

4.4. Report of the Representative of all Working Parties

U. Rossi informed the General Assembly that a Japanese and a Spanish Working Party have been founded in addition to the German-speaking, the English-speaking and the Italian Working Parties. Furthermore, the EDNAP group has been accepted as a Working Party within the ISFH.

4.5. Report of the Auditors of the Account

A. Kloostermann stated that he checked the account together with G. de Lange. The account was found to be in order and handled in a perfect way. Therefore, the Treasurer is relieved by the General Assembly.

4.6. Relief of the Executive Committee

On a motion proposed by S. Rand, the Executive Committee was relieved of its duties by the General Assembly.

TOP 5 Report of the Activities of the DNA Commission

The DNA Commission had two meetings in order to update the DNA Recommendations. This new version (which contains a few typing errors which, however, do not alter the sense of the text) has been handed out to all members of the ISFH attending the Conference in Mainz. Comments or suggestions should be sent to B. Brinkmann within 4 weeks (before October 20, 1991).

TOP 6 Honorary Membership

The President delivered the diploma to G. Gathof and to W. Spielmann. The diploma for H.H. Hoppe, who could not attend the meeting in Mainz, was handed out to W. Martin. B. Brinkmann then proposed on behalf of the Executive Committee that D.A. Hopkinson and H. Matsumoto be elected as Honorary

Members. These 2 outstanding personalities were elected with acclamation.

TOP 7 Election of Members of the Executive Committee

This business was performed by an election committee consisting of P. Martin (chairman), N. Morling and S. Rand.

7.1. Election of the President

The Executive Committee proposed W. Bär; no alternative candidate was put forward by the General Assembly.

Result of the vote:	for Bär:	87
	against:	9
	abstentions:	5
	void:	4
total ballot papers distributed:		105

7.2. Election of the Treasurer

The Executive Committee proposed P. Lincoln; no alternative candidate was put forward by the General Assembly.

Result of the vote:	for Lincoln:	100
	against:	2
	abstentions:	0
	void:	3
total ballot papers distributed:		105

7.3. Election of the Representative for all Working Parties

The Executive Committee proposed U. Rossi; no alternative candidate was put forward by the General Assembly.

Result of the vote:	for Rossi:	105
	against:	1
	abstentions:	0
	void:	1
total ballot papers distributed:		107

7.4. Election of two Auditors of the Account

P. Schneider and A. Carracedo, as well as H. Janssen and M. Greenhalgh (substitutes), were elected with acclamation.

TOP 8 Place and President of the next International Congress in 1993

Two suggestions were discussed: Kyoto / H. Matsumoto as well as Venice / A. Fiori (U. Rossi acting as President of the Organizing Committee). A clear-cut majority of the members of the ISFH were in favour of Venice; the 15th International Congress of the ISFH will take place in Venice-Lido probably in the period from October 13, 1993 - October 15, 1993.

TOP 9 Miscellaneous

9.1. G. Geserick in his function as President of the german-speaking Working Party raised the question why no german papers had been presented at the Congress in Mainz. B. Brinkmann stated that the ISFH is still a bilingual society (english and german), but that no german abstracts had been submitted to the conference.

9.2. B. Brinkmann, the President of the ISFH, and R. Bütler, the Vicepresident, terminate their functions on December 31, 1991 and take their leave of the members of the ISFH. According to the statutes of the ISFH, B. Brinkmann will take over the position of Vicepresident for 1992 and 1993.

The President thanked all participants and closed the General Assembly at 18.20.